

RECREATION

— January 1942 —

February Furlough

By Ruth Bachman

Gardens for Recreation

By Van Evrie Kilpatrick

Hobbies and Happiness in Old Age

By Judson T. Landis

Service Men's Clubs as Hospitality Centers

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Recreation Workers Help to Win Victory

WE are all in the war.

All must work at a real job or fight.

Victory is now our goal.

One of the central jobs is recreation.

Recreation is central for physical fitness, mental fitness, ability to live comfortably with others, keeping thumbs up.

There is no gain in stopping living because we are fighting, or our sons have gone to one of the fronts.

You can't work all the time, fight all the time.

You work better, fight better if you relax in between and get as little tense as may be.

And then, anyway, for the future you want to keep up the habit of living a little each day.

When black-outs come, much may be crowded back into the home. Then music, songs, games, social activity become important. As in times of infantile paralysis and other epidemics municipal recreation systems have accepted heavy responsibility for broadcasting and advising on home recreation activity, so now the need is similar.

In air raid shelters recreation leaders, club leaders have great importance, particularly for active boys upward of sixteen years of age. The devil finds much for idle hands to do. Older boys to save their lives cannot long sit still in complete idleness. Wise leaders must give a certain minimum amount of guidance in free time activity in the air shelters, if we are to keep our boys from delinquency.

In war time, in emergencies, physical activity, conditioning, keeping fit are important. Recreation leaders must take the lead for those who turn to the community centers.

English children, we are told, have been taught to play Run, Rabbit, Run as they duck under seats and benches in schools when the air siren sounds. And they play their little game and call back and forth to each other as they wait for the all-clear signal. Sometimes they even want to go on lying under the forms after the need has passed.

English children have been taught to skip and sing when it is necessary to march to an underground shelter, and all this helps to minimize the shock.

Our children must be protected as far as may be from war-shock.

Keep cool and sane through a certain minimum amount of recreation.

Buying war bonds will not leave as much money to pay for commercial recreation.

Municipal recreation systems can help families find inexpensive community and home recreation.

If the war continues for a long time probably at least a half million volunteers should be trained to serve their country through recreation.

Municipal recreation systems can help and are helping in training volunteers.

These tasks are over and above the effective services being rendered by municipal recreation departments to men in uniform and to workers in war industries.

When victory comes, as come it must, recreation workers will be proud of the part they have played.

Howard Brancher

January



Photo by Ray Forsberg

"Wintertime, which formerly closed its heavy mantle on outdoor activities of the people of the snowlands, now opens a vista comparable to the summer season. Winter vacations are now being taken by business and professional people; the summer family week end at the shore now has its complement of the family outing at the ski resort or a snow carnival. Outdoor exercise in the sun, much needed in winter, has its answer in skiing, a sport in which anyone can find fun and good health in its participation."—From *The Complete Ski Guide*.

A Tradition That Never Grows Old!

THE PLACE was ancient Rome; the day, February 14th; the year, 271 A.D. There was an air of excitement in the streets as people congregated in small groups to discuss an event that had taken place on one of Rome's seven hills.

Rome's city fathers were divided in their opinions, for on that morning a man had been condemned to die because he had held fast to an ideal. Valentine, Bishop of Spoleto, was burned at the stake because he believed love was sufficient unto itself and that neither rank nor wealth, poverty nor lowly station, should be considered when marriage vows were to be taken.

The week before this fateful February morning, Valentine had married the son of a famous Roman senator to the daughter of a poor miller. This so infuriated the senator that he had the priest arrested, chained and dragged through the streets, and later burned at the stake.

For nearly seventeen hundred years that fateful day has been celebrated in all lands as the Feast of Romance to commemorate the martyrdom of young love's patron saint.

Several other explanations are given for the familiar custom of sending love tokens, cards of greeting and the like, and for the various social activities associated with St. Valentine's Day. One legend has it that St. Valentine was accustomed to going about from house to house leaving food on the doorsteps of the poor and that the custom of sending Valentine greetings, at first anonymously, grew out of that custom. Another explanation connects the modern celebration of the day with the survival of the Roman festival, Lupercalia, which occurred on February 15th. A festival of similar nature was observed in old England and Scotland and to some extent in other European countries.

Both Chaucer and Shakespeare refer to the observance of the festival on the day in early spring when birds first choose their mates. The custom long prevailed on that day of drawing lots to decide which young men and young women should be

There are many legends concerning the origin of St. Valentine's Day. We give you the one which without doubt has the greatest significance for young lovers!

each other's Valentine during the ensuing year. The couples thus drawn exchanged gifts, and in some cases they were regarded as betrothed. Later the custom of making presents on

St. Valentine's Day was confined to the men. It has fallen into disuse in Great Britain, but the sending of sentimental valentines and gifts of flowers and candy on February 14th is still common in America.

Some Suggestions for the Observance of Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day affords the recreation leader an excellent opportunity to impress upon children the lessons of friendship, unselfishness, and good will. The sentimental associations of the day may easily be kept in the background. For days or even weeks beforehand, valentine-making may engage the attention of younger children, and much of it may be correlated with recreation activities. What is more attractive than bird valentines? The nature study class may well give some time to coloring bird pictures, which may then be cut out and pasted on the valentines. Flowers may be treated in the same way, and in both instances care should be taken to have the coloring true to life.

The sewing class may make heart-shaped sachets, pin cushions, and even scrapbooks. The manual training class may fashion simple wooden toys, while the cooking class may produce heart-shaped biscuits, candies, or cookies. Even the very little children can make valentines that will be a delight to father or mother or teacher. They may cut from red paper ten or a dozen hearts, print on each one "Good for a half hour of work," and seal them in an envelope. The work done in response to these "promissory

notes" will probably be the most cheerful ever performed by the little valentine makers! Blotting pads of red ornamented with white hearts, and bookmarks and napkin rings similarly decorated are all very simple to construct. Parents or

"Perhaps St. Valentine's Day, more than any other holiday, retains the spirit of the original rites and festivals. Hang up your cardboard hearts and festoon your colored paper! Pan hides behind each gay trifle and Juno smiles on the party! The shades of Roman youths and maidens linger about, warming themselves at your feast, while good St. Valentine no doubt looks on in consternation and embarrassment."

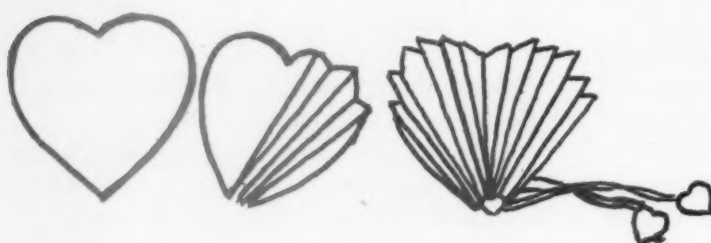
other adults to whom such tokens are given should take care to make use of them, as nothing so pleases a child as to believe that he has made something which someone cannot do without.

On the afternoon of St. Valentine's Day, after the leader had discussed valentine legends and has emphasized the doing-for-others idea, an exhibit of valentines may be arranged to which each child may contribute his best work.

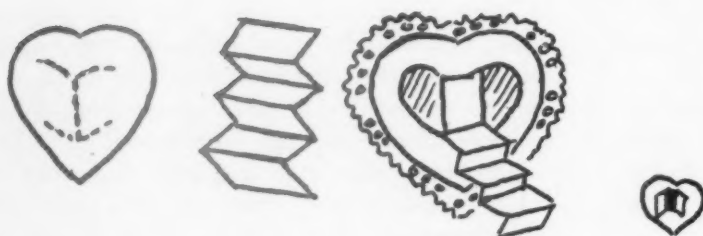
The suggestion has been made by a recreation worker that soon after the Christmas holidays children might well examine their greeting cards

with the idea of salvaging bits of red and white, silver and gold which might be used in making valentines. The attractive paper which is used to line some Christmas card envelopes should also be saved. Pictures cut from magazines and seed catalogues are important supplies, as is colored paper—red is always popular. Invaluable to the valentine supply box are the paper lace doilies which may be secured in packages. A pair of scissors, a pencil, and paste should be at hand.

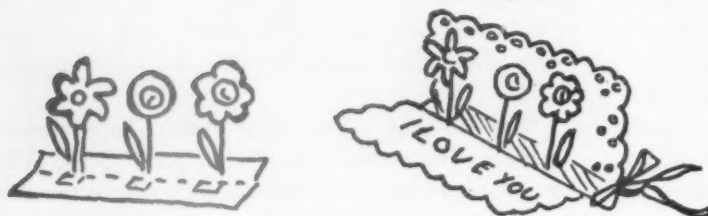
Here are a few suggestions which may help you in making some simple but attractive valentines:



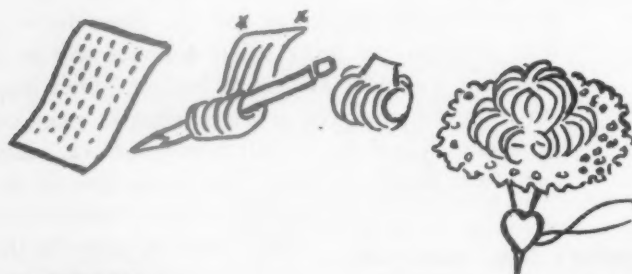
A paper heart is folded accordion fashion, and gaily colored streamers are attached at the bottom.



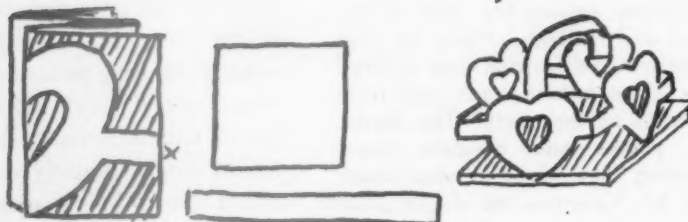
Slash paper heart on broken lines. Open out the two halves. Fold a strip of paper accordion fashion. Mount the heart on a lace doily and paste the folded strip on the center. When the two halves are opened the steps will unfold.



Cut flowers from colored construction paper. Attach to strip of gilt paper and paste to center of folded doily. When opened, the flowers will pop up.



Slash a piece of red paper 2" x 4" through the center to within a half inch of the edges. Roll it around a pencil tightly. Fasten the marked ends together with paste, and paste on a white paper doily. You will have as a result a nosegay which, if small, may serve as a boutonniere; if large, as a centerpiece.



Fold a piece of paper accordion fashion. On front fold draw a half heart and strip as shown. Cut around the heart, leaving folds (x) uncut. When opened up, strip acts as connecting link for hearts. Join series of hearts together and paste on square base.



February Furlough

HERE ARE suggestions for a party with a military atmosphere (farcical, we need not add!). Since soldiers, sailors, and marines are sharing honors equally, decorations should feature all three services impartially.

Lights are made to resemble searchlights; walls are hung with flags—the Betsy Ross flag, the Confederate flag, state flags, and Old Glory. These may be easily made of paper. Located at strategic points are such symbols as the goat, donkey and bull dog.

At the entrance of the hall is a gangplank made of boards placed at a slant of about six inches so that it will be necessary for the guests to step down into the hall. Rails make the gangplank more realistic. This end of the hall is devoted to the Navy and is decorated with ship's bells, anchors, mariner's wheels, compasses, and life preservers. A string of Navy signal flags spelling some suitable word adds a touch of realism.

The opposite end of the hall belongs to the Army, and here appropriate effects are obtained through the use of a back drop painted on wrapping paper fitted together as a mural and featuring pup tents, airplanes, and the like. Refreshments may be served here either from a canteen or mess tent. (The dispensers of the food wear K. P. arm bands.)

If the hall is very large and requires more decorations, varicolored triangular pennants may be cut from crepe paper, pinned on lengths of rope or wire and looped from wall to wall at least eight feet above the floor.

Favors lend a festive air and at the same time

This party has been planned for the men in uniform and is dedicated to their enjoyment

By RUTH BACHMAN

serve as excellent devices for mixing people and breaking the ice. Paper hats or lapel hats or chevrons may be passed out at the door. In this way each participant will be provided with a partner.

The hats suggested as favors are patterned on those worn by sailors (white), marines (blue), and the doughboy in the Army. Each has an appropriate name attached such as Admiral Dewey, General Butler, or Washington. The girls also have hats of the same models bearing the names Mrs. Dewey, Mrs. Butler, or Mrs. Washington.

"Captain's Orders"

As each person enters he is given a typed sheet of paper containing "Captain's orders" including such commands as:

- (1) Introduce yourself to the first lady you meet.
- (2) Collect four autographs of persons named Smith.
- (3) Introduce two people and ask them to dance.
- (4) See that all seated ladies meet their partners.
- (5) Persuade three men from the Army, Navy, and Marines to sing a trio.
- (6) Find the tallest person in the room.

At a specified time everyone will be asked to prove that he has followed "Captain's orders." Those who have not will be required to pay a forfeit:

Forfeits

- (1) Talk for three minutes on a crow's nest.
- (2) Walk the plank. (Walk along a chalk line looking down through spyglasses.)

- (3) Blindfolded, stand on the plank while two people lift it. (They actually raise and lower it a few inches, then place it on the floor.) The blindfolded person has placed his hands on the shoulders of another who stoops way down, giving the blindfolded person the feeling of being high in the air. He is then told to jump off.



- (4) Sit on a bottle with the heel of one foot on the toes of the other and light a candle.
 (5) Describe a top sergeant.
 (6) Sing a song.

The party is opened by the playing of reveille on a bugle. A fife and drum corps made up of a soldier, sailor, and marine lead the grand march. Refreshments are announced by mess call. Taps notify the guests that the party has come to an end.

Special Dances



Elimination. Paul Revere astride a broomstick eliminates couples by riding up and saying, "The enemy has come!"

Lincoln's Civil War Tag Dance. The ladies are "Southern belles," the sailors are Confederates. It is up to the Yankees (soldiers and marines) to cut in and keep the Confederates from dancing.

Enemy Territory Elimination. Post three or four men around at different spots where they decide upon a definite area about three yards square. (They must shift their area each time.) When the music stops, any dancers standing in these areas are considered in enemy territory and are captured or eliminated.

Sham Battle. Each girl ties a balloon on her ankle and all couples dance. The object is to



break everyone else's balloon in the course of the dance and keep your own intact.

Mess Call (Elimination Dance). Chairs are placed in a row down the

center of the room, alternate chairs facing in opposite directions. There is one chair less than the number of couples dancing. When mess call is blown on the bugle, every girl must find a chair. (Her partner may reserve it for her by placing his hand on one.) Those who do not succeed in reaching a chair are eliminated, and one chair is removed each time the bugle blows.

Accumulation ("Girl in Every Port"). If there is difficulty in getting the dancers on the floor, choose a man from the Navy. Have him find a partner and dance with her until the music stops (sixteen measures), when each takes a new partner and dances for sixteen measures, and so on.

Charades



Charades may portray historical events such as Washington crossing the Delaware, Paul Revere's ride, Sherman's march, the Boston tea party, and so on.

Songs

Singing is of course important. Songs may include "America," "The Star-Spangled Banner," "Marching On," "Marching Through Georgia," "John Brown's Baby," "Anchor's Aweigh," "U.S. Marine Song," "Tipperary," "Over There," "Long, Long Trail," "My Buddy," "Alouette," "Parley Vous," and "Shipmates Forever."

Groups interested in securing material on the celebration of the holidays and special days occurring in February may secure on request from the National Recreation Association a list of the inexpensive material it has issued. Ask for a copy of "Suggested Program Aids for St. Valentine's Day, Lincoln's and Washington's Birthdays."

National Defense Book Campaign

MILLIONS of books will be provided for men in the armed forces of the United States and the Merchant Marine through a National Defense Book Campaign sponsored by the American Library Association, the American Red Cross, and the United Service Organizations.

The date for the opening of the book drive, which is expected to provide between five and ten million volumes for men of the armed services and of the American Merchant Marine, will be January 12, 1942.

Books obtained in the drive will be used to supplement the library services provided by the government.

Miss Althea Warren, chief librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library has been appointed as national director of the National Defense Book Campaign, and will serve as secretary of the executive board which is made up of representatives of the three sponsoring organizations, with offices at National USO headquarters in the Empire State Building in New York City.

The following eight national organizations have each appointed, at the invitation of the executive committee, a representative to assist in the campaign:

The American Merchant Marine Library Association
Boy Scouts of America
Camp Fire Girls, Inc.
Girl Scouts, Inc.
National Congress of Parents and Teachers
National Recreation Association
Special Libraries Association
Work Projects Administration — Library Service Division

"We Want Books" is the slogan of a campaign in which recreation departments will want to play their part

By SUSAN M. LEE

Miss Lee, who is Third Vice-President and Secretary of the Board of Directors of the National Recreation Association, is serving as the Association's representative on the Advisory Committee of National Defense Book Campaign.

The collection campaign is to be organized on a state plan with a director and executive committee for each state, and a local director and executive committee for all cities and towns where book gifts are to be collected.

Civilians throughout the nation are asked to cooperate in the campaign, delivering whatever books they can give to the nearest library, school,

or other collection center designated by the local committee.

After books have been sorted and classified in the local centers, reports will be sent to national headquarters of the campaign where a central control system will assure equitable distribution. In most instances books will be sent direct from the local center to the nearest military base or service club. Unbound magazines or newspapers will not be handled in this campaign.

Officials associated with the campaign stress the fact that the interests of service men cover a wide range of reading interests, including technical and professional as well as general recreational material.

A number of communities, among them New York

City, have already conducted campaigns to collect books for the men in service. An article by Charles H. English in the April 1941 issue of RECREATION tells of the book showers held in Philadelphia. Here 197 public and parochial schools took part in the campaign, which resulted in gathering approximately 200,000 carefully selected magazines and books for the Navy Yard and for camps in the vicinity.

HOW COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS CAN HELP

At a meeting on December 3rd at campaign headquarters, it was suggested that advisory and co-operating groups might help in the following ways:

1. By contributing workers to local campaigns
2. By having officers and workers prepared to serve on state and local executive committees
3. By allowing their offices or headquarters to be used as collection centers
4. By displaying in their offices or headquarters posters and other publicity material supplied by headquarters of the campaign
5. By encouraging publicity projects such as the making of posters in their organizations
6. By making announcement of the campaign to their groups, and in club bulletins and magazines asking their members to give books

Service Men's Clubs as Hospitality Centers

From all parts of the country come accounts of the clubs and hospitality centers being established for service men. New buildings are being erected. Old stores, warehouses, schools are being reconditioned through community effort and put into all-day, and often all-night use. Many stories could be told about these centers which, to men in all branches of the service, are the symbol of the communities' interest in them. A few typical instances are given here.

"The Golden Gate Is Open Wide"

By JOSEPHINE RANDALL
Superintendent
San Francisco Recreation Commission

SAN FRANCISCO, strategically centered on our Pacific Coast, is a natural military defense area. A city of supreme and exotic beauty, situated for the most part on the slopes of seven hills which rise above the historic bay on one side and the vast Pacific Ocean on the other, San Francisco now delights in playing host to the thousands of soldiers, sailors, and marines stationed at the twelve large military bases in the Bay area.

Sixteen thousand soldiers are quartered in the famous military Presidio by the Golden Gate and at other forts around the bay, while 35,000 more men are within a few hours' ride of the city by

army caravan. These men in the service of Uncle Sam are finding the romantic home of the Spanish Dons a place of beauty and adventure.

Priding herself on the spirit of welcome and hospitality extended to visitors in this historic metropolis, San Francisco immediately set about helping the fellow citizens assigned here for duty in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard enjoy their stay.

In December, 1940, Mayor Angelo J. Rossi called together a representative citizens' committee composed of leaders in civic, social, military, and educational organizations to discuss the needs and to formulate plans for providing the trainees not only a hearty welcome but a sustained program of worthwhile recreation and entertainment.

Number One accomplishment was the "go-ahead" signal on the nation's first municipally-owned and constructed Hospitality House for the exclusive use of men in the service. All building materials were supplied by the city; local union labor volunteered its time, and carpenters, painters, plumbers, and plasterers assigned by the Building Trades Council worked in their off-hours and late at night to complete the structure absolutely free of labor costs. Located at the Civic Center, in the very heart of the downtown district, Hospitality House



True to its name, "Hospitality House" is offering the service men the opportunities for social recreation which they crave. Games and dancing, music, and tools and materials for making things, if their tastes lie in that direction, are all here.

Local union labor built this center as its contribution to the service men. Members volunteered their time, working in their free hours and often late into the night to finish the building in record time.



Courtesy Redwood Empire Association

is a place where the men can gather as at their own club, relax, refresh themselves, and make arrangements and plans for their time when away from the Post.

The main feature is a large lounge, which has hardwood floors and is furnished with light, comfortable furniture and small rugs which can be rolled back to provide for impromptu dancing. A large radio phonograph and piano furnish music. There are reading, writing, and library rooms, tables for cards and other games, daily newspapers of all major cities, private telephone booths, locker and rest rooms. One of the most important and popular rooms is the kitchen where refreshments issued without charge to the service men are prepared. Assignments are made to the hundreds of clubs and organizations to act as hostesses and take charge for a particular day. Each enlisted man on entering is given a booklet containing detailed information about places to go and things to see, entertainments, facilities available, and included is a script of complimentary coupons to shows, restaurants, dances, and sports events.

Completed in record time, Hospitality House opening was a gala one—a gigantic week-end celebration, a huge invitational

all-star Hollywood stage show in the Civic Auditorium with 10,000 soldiers as guests. On the following day a conducted tour of the city's forty-nine mile scenic drive saw thousands of persons chauffeuring service men in the family car. Singular, indeed, was the sight of lads from the Middle West or inland states, who, on first glimpsing the vast Pacific, were so impressed that they dashed shouting from the cars, sped across the sands, and rushed right into the surf! After the drive these boys were dinner guests at the homes of those whose cars had made the tour. These forty-nine mile guest tours are now a regular Sunday feature.

Following the fanfare of an official welcome, the committee, with wholehearted civic support, enthusiastically tackled the task of continuing a good job. Working hand in hand with commanding officers of the various posts, the things most needed and desired were provided.

The San Francisco Recreation Department placed its outstanding athletic unit, the twelve-acre Funston playfield and clubhouse, at the disposal of the enlisted men stationed at the Presidio, only a few blocks distant. Here they engage in nearly every sport — baseball, softball, tennis, basketball, volleyball; golf driving cages,

The Service Man's Guide which Miss Randall mentions in her article is an attractively illustrated booklet of information regarding places of interest in or near San Francisco. At the back of the book are several pages of detachable coupons entitling men in uniform to free admission to a number of local theaters and to wrestling matches, swimming pools and other sports centers, and also to a twenty-five per cent discount on hotel rates. Two detachable post cards and a blank page for "Important Notes" complete this booklet, which bears the title, "Something Doing in San Francisco."

putting greens, and horse-shoe links are available, and there are many night activities as well. In addition to the regular municipal athletic leagues in which the service teams take part, there are special tournaments conducted by the Recreation Department exclusively for teams from the camps.

A series of Thursday evening dances in the Funston Recreation Center have proved tremendously popular. The girls are chosen from the long list of industrial and commercial firms taking part in Department athletic and social activities, and from memberships of various playground and community center clubs. The soldiers are invited through the commanding officer, each company receiving its invitation by turn. Music of the eight piece WPA orchestra starts at eight o'clock and continues until twelve. The recreation leaders and hostesses introduce the service men to the girls, and through informal dances and games keep them happily engaged finding new partners or seeking favorites among the dancers.

Hallowe'en was the occasion of a costume party with papier-mâché goblins and witches gazing down from the blue shadows of the gymnasium rafters on scenes of festive broom dances, apple bobbing, and forfeit games. The boys, generally, give little evidence of shyness when seeking a partner from amongst the many pretty and attractive young ladies. It is at these dances that many of the boys and girls have made acquaintances that now are treasured. Often the young men receive invitations to the homes of the girls and enjoy the pleasure of dinner and a social evening with the family.

"Service men, meet your friends here!" This is the invitation appearing on a card issued by the Recreation Committee of the Philadelphia Council of Defense, and the "here" referred to is the Hospitality Center for service men. The card, printed in red and blue and carrying the insignia of the Center—two clasped hands—also contains a map showing the location of the Center. An interesting feature of the Philadelphia program is the fact that the cards are given service men by policemen as they meet them on the streets.

Rumor has it that bids to these dances are in great demand, and barter at the army post has brought high prices for some of the highly prized pasteboards!

Besides athletics and socials, the trainee finds many opportunities for self-expression through hobby and craft activities.

A photography center,

open daily, evenings, and week ends, finds the men engaged in using the camera and dark room facilities, the enlargers and the library; field trips and studio work are enjoyed by the more advanced army photo fans.

The director at the Drama Studio gives instruction in the making of puppets, shepherd pipes, string belts, and purses. Opportunities to take part in plays, choral groups, vocal or instrumental music are provided. Bulletins of additions to the regular programs are posted throughout the camps, as well as at the Hospitality House and other service headquarters.

One hundred and thirty miles south lies California's largest army training camp, Fort Ord. Here 32,000 soldiers away from

any city or town must fill their entire leisure time at the post. Just before war maneuvers week-end dances have been held at Ford Ord, the trainees inviting the girls of San Francisco to be their guests. The Southern Pacific offered special rates for the trips, a set of barracks were converted into girls' dormitories, and the city shared in solving the problem of the smaller communities.

During maneuvers and war games, as many as 15,000 enlisted men have at one time encamped in our Golden Gate Park, on our playfields and our beaches.

The Thursday night dances at Funston Recreation Center are so popular that invitations to them are highly prized



The residents near these bivouacs welcome the boys who are off duty into their homes for dinner and the evening.

Marching units, starting from the Presidio, cross town to the forty-two acre Crocker Amazon Playfield, and pitch their pup tents on the turf for an overnight stay. In the morning they compete in games of baseball, pushball, and soccer, take refreshing showers, and prepare for the return hike.

Dances at the Aquatic Park are open to all service men, and while accommodating huge numbers, are not as satisfactory as the more informal, smaller dances with a limited number of guests.

Every other Tuesday evening the famous old pioneer Trocadero Rancho, now the Sigmund Stern Memorial Grove, is the setting of parties for groups of as small as fifty to seventy-five trainees. Here the boys and girls dance to the strains of recorded music and enjoy the homelike atmosphere of games in the parlor and the singing of favorite songs around the piano.

On warm evenings the barbecue pits and picnic grounds are used for weiner roasts, popping corn and toasting marshmallows.

Thanksgiving week the phones of the army camps were deluged with calls from all over the city inviting the boys away from home to come out to the house for a turkey dinner with all the trimmings. So many invitations were extended that there were not enough of service men to go "round"!

Instances of individual enthusiasm are exemplified by the generous action of a lady who filled

her box in the diamond horseshoe during evenings of the opera season with trainees from the camps, and furthermore, insisted that all her guests be privates! There are, too, the ticket committees that obtain reduced rates or free admissions for the men in uniform and send them to the commanding officer to distribute to the men in the camps.

Much has been said of the federal financial assistance given to communities whose location and industries are directly related to national defense.



Courtesy Chicago Park District

Most of this money has been allocated to the smaller communities which would otherwise have no way of providing recreation or wholesome entertainment to the men stationed near those towns. Up to the present time this city has had no funds from such a source, but is meeting the influx of thousands of troops in its own way and through its own efforts. There is much to offer here, and from all indications Uncle Sam's boys are accepting the offers; morale is considered extremely high and with everybody eagerly doing their utmost for "our boys," it is destined to stay high.



A Service Club in the Heart of Chicago

By V. K. BROWN

Director of Recreation Division
Chicago Park District

CHICAGO'S THREE MILLION people are turning this mid-west metropolis into just another home town for thousands of men in uniform. Members of civic groups, service clubs, churches, school and municipal departments are entertaining 7,000 soldiers, sailors and marines each week at the city's official "open house."

An abandoned fourteen-story building which once housed the Elks' Club has been transformed into a center for the service men who spend their free evenings and week ends in the "windy

The story of Chicago's program for the service men developed through the co-operation of public and private agencies is a stirring one. It bears evidence to the fact that the people of America's second largest city are extending a gracious welcome to the boys in uniform who know they will always find an open door awaiting them in the heart of Chicago.

city." The Mayor's Committee on National Defense has established a sub-committee under the direction of Frank Loomis to operate this centrally-located club with the cooperation of many civic organizations.

The Service Men's Center was originally financed by a fund which remained from war camp community operations of the last war. Since the fund was not adequate, however, the city of Chicago has helped to finance the work. Extensive reconditioning was necessary before the building could be put into active use, but this problem was solved when technical workers on city pay rolls contributed labor for painting and repairs. Furnishings for the Center have been the gifts of local merchants and manufacturers.

Mayor Kelly has adhered to the policy of making this a completely municipal project operated by personnel from public agencies, with the exception of an information

desk manned by the Travelers Aid. The USO provided some limited funds for a staff while the WPA assigned a number of its remaining workers to the Center. The Park District has supplied the full-time services of Ralph Nelson, one of its most capable leaders, and the daily part-time service of District Executive O. C. Rose who has also volunteered many week-end and holiday hours.

The city of Chicago has now appropriated \$125,000 from municipal funds and is underwriting all of the repairs and operations of the building. President Dunham has authorized the Park District to operate the Center as a park fieldhouse, assuming responsibility for leadership, janitorial service, heat and light.

Eight floors of the building are used for recreation of all kinds. Each Saturday night finds soldiers and sailors waltzing or "jitter-bugging" on the fourth floor to the rhythms of a modern swing band, while up on the eighth floor strains of hill-billy music can be heard between husky square dance calls.

In the fifth floor canteen little groups of men are watching an entertainment and leaning hungrily over the cookie jar. Others are amusing themselves with billiards, archery and even pitching horseshoes in the sixth and seventh floor game rooms. The quiet third floor lounge is reserved for those who want to curl up and read a book, write a letter home, or just hold hands with their girl friends.

Local girls who are invited to the Center's parties and dances have been carefully investigated and selected. Some responsible citizen must sponsor each girl who is then interviewed and provided with card credentials bearing her photograph. The women's division of the defense committee has given many days of work to this registration.

Movies and amateur shows are given at the Center every Sunday afternoon. The theaters of the city have joined together to present a weekly



professional variety program on Saturdays with the best stage and radio talent. Legitimate theaters have also responded weekly with passes for the men, and tickets are sent to the Center for operas, college and professional football games, moving pictures, and special sporting events.

The WPA tour service is arranging Saturday afternoon tours to Chicago's large department stores, museums, industrial plants, and other points of interest. A special trip to Chinatown is conducted on Saturday nights.

Saturday night and Sunday attendance at the Center sometimes reaches 4,000. The Saturday crowd is already taxing the building's facilities to the straining point, but program changes are being made to take care of the rapidly increasing numbers.

Upper floors are being transformed into dormitories. A system of hotel operation will be put into effect so that men in transit and on convoy can be provided with a night's lodging. Dormitories will accommodate approximately 200 men at a probable laundry fee of twenty-five cents. The hotels of the city have arranged a dormitory system at minimum cost for boys from near-by camps week-ending in town, and the Center's rooms will probably be reserved for special convoys forced to spend the night in Chicago.

No charge is made to the men for either recreation activities or canteen supplies. The free can-

teen service costs \$800 a month, most of which is donated by service, community and civic organizations volunteering to provide coffee, sandwiches and other refreshments for the men.

If a women's club agrees to provide canteen supplies for Sunday afternoon this may mean coffee and cakes for more than 2,500 boys. On Saturdays an average of 3,000 service men stream through the building, and many baking hours are needed to keep the cookie jar filled or to provide doughnuts for even one evening.

Girls of a telephone exchange located two blocks from the Center have recently organized their 4,000 operators into a cookie-jar brigade. The girls will regularly supply the canteen with batches of cookies and small cakes.

The Center's canteen book is open for reservations until January 1, 1943. Groups have already signed up to provide food for every Saturday in the coming year. Not until every week night and Sunday throughout the year has been reserved will the book be closed for 1942.

A sign on the canteen indicates the name of the organization which is furnishing the evening's food. Chicago Park camera clubs are donating a camera and flashlight to take pictures of the canteen in order that women who have worked on the project can have pictorial evidence of the hungry soldiers and sailors in action.

The staff of the Chicago Park District is campaigning to enlist every racial, social, or civic group in the work of the Center. Some of the active members of each club are taken on a tour of the building and told how their group could contribute to this community-wide program. One club may, for example, organize an old-fashioned taffy pull, corn popping party or peanut roast. Another group may round up talent and supply an evening's entertainment or perhaps introduce some new game equipment or activity for the boys. Suggestions are always welcome, since novelty has the same important place in a service men's center as in a recreation program.

Chicago's boat building fraternity has offered to build a large number of cutters to be presented to the Naval Training units located here in the city. Some of the boats may be reserved in our park harbor for recreational use by men in uniform as supplementary equipment of the Service Men's Center.

The city's photographic clubs are setting up a dark room and complete photographic equipment

at the Center. This will be used by men in uniform who have camera hobbies.

Park centers throughout the city have been active in organizing their communities to cooperate with the Center in extending Chicago's hospitality to visiting men in uniform. Recreation centers are sending entertainment talent downtown for the amateur shows, with many of the playground children helping to put over these programs.

Since the center is usually overcrowded on week ends, many of the parks are sending buses to pick up about 100 men and take them out to a park center for an afternoon or evening. The men are guests at a community dinner and special entertainment is planned for them in fieldhouses equipped with gymnasiums, assembly halls, craft shops, libraries and club rooms. As the municipal program develops, this will be an expanding feature, supplementing the operation of the Center itself with further community participation throughout the city.

The community centers have also been drafted for civilian defense work. One room in each fieldhouse is set aside for the use of volunteers. Women are invited to come to the park with their knitting and sewing for the Red Cross and other war relief groups. Here they can work with their neighbors, listen to music and hear lectures. Plans are under way to have representatives of South American republics come out from consular offices to speak to the workers, perhaps describing the people and customs of our continental neighbors. This informal, neighborly federating of forces is making an active contribution to the national cause.

The Christmas program at the Service Men's Center climaxed the work for 1941. Holiday festivities were planned for the boys who could not go home. The neighborhood group winning last year's prize for the best decorated community Christmas tree asked for the privilege of supplying and decorating the Christmas tree in the Center.

Children in craft classes set aside one day for making Christmas gifts for the men—leather tobacco pouches, keyring holders, card cases, bill folds, silk scarves and handkerchiefs. A folding Christmas card was designed, mimeographed and labeled "the work of the children of Chicago." Another day was spent by the children in coloring these cards with crayons and water colors. Each child attached a stamp to his card so that it was ready for addressing and posting. The greetings

were then taken to the Center for any of the boys who wanted to send them to friends at home.

Thus the Service Men's Center has become truly a community affair. The mayor and his wife have taken an active part in the work and are leading the city in this gesture of cooperative hospitality. Men, women and children are working and planning. Many of them have sent gifts—a carload of coal, 50,000 sheets of stationery, 10,000 envelopes. Others are giving their time to talk or dance with the soldiers, to act as hostesses, to bake cookies.

A Town Club in St. Louis

By PAUL B. McNAMARA

THE ST. LOUIS Service Men's Center, operated under the auspices of the United St. Louis Organization for National Defense, is a vast city recreation spot of approximately 75,000 square feet of hospitality for soldiers, sailors, and marines stationed in or passing through St. Louis. Visited by more than 8,000 service men per week, the center is operated in conjunction with the United States Army Recreational Area in St. Louis Forest Park. It is capable of providing housing and sleeping accommodations for more than a thousand men in uniform who may be in the city over night.

The Facilities

Facilities include a main lounge equipped with comfortable furniture in a modern style, up-to-date periodicals, local and out-of-town newspapers, writing desks and stationery, and the various things which combine to make life comfortable and pleasant for the service man who stops at the center to pass an hour or an entire evening.

There is a bridge lounge at the disposal of the service men and their friends for card parties. An informal dance lounge in which music is provided by the "juke" box can be used only by men in uniform and their friends. Good fellowship has not been forgotten, for there is the community singing corner where "good fellows get together," and the walls resound with harmony.

For those who are hobby-minded there is the hobby lobby in which materials such as leather, wood, and metal are provided at cost and the service men can use the tools and facilities of the lobby to make simple

gifts for those at home or articles for their personal use.

The "inner man" receives careful consideration at the snack bar where an entire corner of the huge hall is given over to a refreshment bar with about fifty tables. More than two hundred people can be seated at these tables and the refreshments are reasonably priced. The travel-tired soldier, dusty and perhaps unshaven, can repair to the center for a shave, shine, and shower and can take advantage of the cafeteria valet service where irons and ironing boards for pressing are provided, and the men themselves provide the "elbow grease."

For those of a graphic turn of mind the center offers a camera club corner where the amateur camera hobbyist can have the advantage of the services of experienced instructors to aid him in developing and printing his own pictures, planning photographic tours, and receiving general instruction.

It's made very easy for the service man stationed near St. Louis to find an answer to the question, "Where shall we go?"



Courtesy St. Louis Post-Dispatch



Social Activities

Every Saturday afternoon there is a bridge party, with young women drawn from local groups volunteering their services as partners. Every two weeks a dance is held at which formal dress is optional, thus giving the girls a chance to appear in their finest before the service men who make an extremely colorful picture in their full dress uniforms. These dances, which have been a great success, have an average attendance of from 1,200 to 1,500 couples.

Other activities include the Sunday afternoon serenade which regales its listeners with semi-classical, chorus, and orchestral music, and musical shows closely rivaling the best the town affords in night club floor shows. These are being held every other Saturday night, alternating with the dances. The musical shows have been received with great interest and enthusiasm by the service men visiting the center. The talent for the shows, both professional and amateur, is donated by

A single glance will show you why the Pantry Shelf in the Service Men's Club in Indianapolis always has its patrons!

volunteers. On Saturday afternoons and Sundays there are tours starting from the center and covering points of local interest

under the direction of experienced guides.

Men in uniform who enjoy competitive events may find an outlet for their energy at table tennis, shuffleboard, shuffle bowling, badminton, and novelty games provided for their enjoyment.

In close conjunction with the Army Recreational Area at Forest Park the center operates information booths at Union Station and other transportation centers in the town, offering information regarding housing, eating, recreation facilities, and home hospitality.

The administration of such a large organization is complex and detailed, but is effectively handled by the administration director, William Goodall, who with his associates is successfully avoiding any feeling of obligation on the part of the boys visiting the center and, as far as possible, eliminating regimentation and regulations. It is thought

that if the boys are made to understand that the center and its facilities are their own, they will give them careful treatment. This has been borne out by results. Breakage, misuse of equipment, and lack of consideration for the furnishings of the center have been at a minimum since this "club city" was opened formally by Mayor Becker last July.

The young women who have been given the formal title of "receptionists" are providing the all-important company for the boys through the various organizations which have volunteered to aid in the social life of the center.

Our center, as in the case of others similar to it throughout the country, was at first regarded rather skeptically by those who wondered if such an organization could be successfully conducted. They were dubious about an undertaking so large and so new in character. The outstanding success of the center, however, its immediate acceptance by all service men who have visited it, its amazing record of "satisfied customers," and the position which it is occupying as a dignified gathering place have proved that our new army is made up of a multitude of young men who know and appreciate wholesome surroundings and good entertainment.

Ping-pong on a co-recreational basis has an important place in the program of the Service Men's Club in Indianapolis



The Service Men's Club Grows Up!

By HELEN BOYD HIGGINS
Indianapolis, Indiana

TEN COOKIES to one man is the ratio maintained by the Army, Navy and Marine Service Men's Club in Indianapolis, which since last May has been the symbol of the friendliness Indianapolis feels for the men in uniform.

The Indianapolis Park Board (Jack Joseph, President), which is financing the center for the first year, began last January to make its plans. The old freight and baggage warehouse belonging to the Indiana Railway was rented for a dollar a year, and plans were immediately made to remodel the building. When the floors had been strengthened and painted and some needed carpentry done, six men, three of them recreation leaders and three janitors who had been furnished by WPA, went on duty.

Early in the spring a city-wide appeal was made for equipment which would make the building a homelike place. Donations began to pour in as the result of which the building is becoming increasingly attractive. Upstairs, where no visitors go except at times when the men are not there, is a

tribute to the generosity of many groups and individuals. The library, a quiet, and restful room at the head of the stairs, was equipped by the National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of Indiana. Books, magazines, easy chairs, and good light await the men. The State Library sends fifty books once a month to augment those given by members of

(Continued on
page 642)

What They Say About Recreation

"**W**E HAVE BUILT schools, colleges, playgrounds, great scientific centers, all for one purpose—that the men and women of tomorrow may be better equipped to meet the problems of life and thereby achieve worth and dignity."—*Gerald Salters.*

"One of the underlying causes for the present war is that people have been living under too much tension. They need to learn to play, to relieve tension either through physical exercise or creative arts programs."—*Mrs. Harrison Elliott.*

"Many people have proven that without art or phantasy they can live dull but decent lives."—*Joep Nicholas from the Survey Midmonthly.*

"To build and maintain better parks we have to do a little more educating. We must educate ourselves and our employees; we must educate the scientists by acquainting them with our problems; and we must educate the public that pays the bills."—*William E. Frost in Parks and Recreation.*

"Partnership, co-sponsorship and team work pay good dividends in service, in friendliness, and in filling the gaps in public needs which could not be met by one agency alone."—From *Annual Report*, Philadelphia Playground and Recreation Association.

"Community recreation programs are an essential social service and one needed even more at present than in times of less strain and stress. The existing community programs should be vigorously maintained and wherever possible expanded."—*The American Youth Commission in Youth Work Programs.*

"You cannot build a fine recreational plant and then let it just run itself and run itself down."—*Allyn R. Jennings, Park Department, New York City.*

"Permanent escape from the cares of the world, or even from the personal cares that infest the day, is impossible. But temporary escape, whether by book or play, or by games, is an excellent thing, and never more important than at present."—*Franklin P. Adams in the New York Post.*

"We can never achieve a perfect and finished form of society. We do not even want to, for to do so would be to arrive at stagnation and death in life. We seek for the ultimate justice. We move toward it. We never reach it."—From *Editorial in The New York Times.*

"The finest prison is but a monument to neglected youth."—*James A. Johnson, Warden, Alcatraz Penitentiary.*

"It is the duty of the park and recreation systems of this Nation to provide the necessary areas and leadership so as to make the 'pursuit of happiness' possible for all of the people, no matter in what walk of life they may be."—*Conrad Wirth in 1940 Yearbook, Park and Recreation Progress.*

"Let us teach new meanings for the use of our glorious out of doors, for the use of the wealth of its hills, valleys, rivers and streams, and for the care of our fertile fields and grasslands."—*Harry S. Hill, County Superintendent of Schools, Mercer County, New Jersey.*

"It is civilization's task to raise every citizen above want, but in doing so to permit a free development and avoid the slavery of the beehive and the ant heap. A humane economic policy must not be allowed to diminish the stature of man's spirit."—*Major Nichol.*

"Public recreation programs have helped to bring greater appreciation of different nationality cultures on the one hand, and on the other, fuller acceptance by these nationality groups of American culture."—*Jane Hoey in her Presidential Address at the 1941 National Conference of Social Work.*

"Recreation makes a vitally important contribution to conservation of the human wealth of the United States. Proper use of our increasing leisure time is the safety valve of modern life, and outdoor recreation amid surroundings inviting a fresh grasp of fundamental human requirements provides the opportunity."—From *The Civilian Conservation Corps and Public Recreation.*

Hobbies and Happiness

in Old Age

The general conclusion of a recent study is that those individuals are well adjusted to old age who are busy, have hobbies and group interests, and who maintain their interest in the present and in planning for the future.

ONE VERY IMPORTANT factor contributing to happiness in later life is the development of interests in hobbies and activities which may be pursued after physical strength is on the decline. A recent study conducted by members of the Sociology Department at Iowa State College produced evidence emphasizing the importance of hobbies in the lives of old people. By random sampling, 450 people ranging in ages from sixty-five to ninety-eight were selected and interviewed.

The old people who have developed hobbies were found to be better adjusted than those who have no hobbies. In general, men are interested in hobbies which require physical strength, such as hunting, fishing, and athletic sports. When they grow older they must give up these activities and shift to some new interests. Many men never satisfactorily shift to new interests and thus find it difficult to adjust as they grow older. Men are often forced to retire from

WORKING PEOPLE ARE HAPPIER



PEOPLE WITH HOBBIES ARE HAPPIER



PEOPLE WITH GARDENS ARE HAPPIER



Each symbol represents 10% of the total

Courtesy Iowa State College

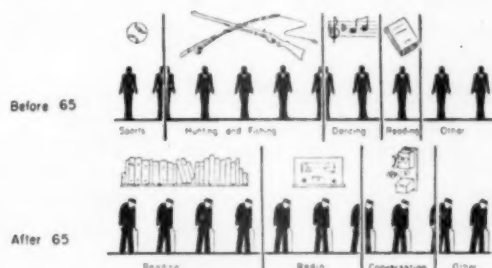
By JUDSON T. LANDIS, Ph.D.
Professor of Sociology
Southern Illinois Normal University

their regular work at sixty or sixty-five, and if they also have to give up their life-time hobbies at this time it is very difficult for a good adjustment to be made.

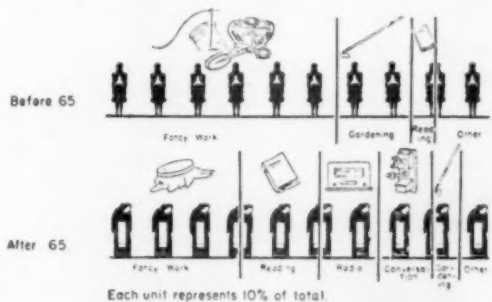
For women the problem is less serious because their hobbies are often ones which may be pursued throughout life. In the past women have been more interested in needle work, quilting, making rugs, and such activities. Failing sight may force women to give up these hobbies but usually they are able to continue them on into old age. Women have another advantage in that they seldom have to give up their regular work entirely; they can always continue with some household responsibilities.

Life expectancy tables
(Continued on page 641)

MEN'S HOBBIES CHANGE AFTER 65



WOMEN'S HOBBIES CHANGE LESS THAN MEN'S



Each unit represents 10% of total

Courtesy Iowa State College

Hobby Windows

"LIFE BEGINS with a Hobby" is the placard which greets one from the windows of the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph Company at Fourteenth and M Streets.

For over a year the people of Lincoln, Nebraska, and visitors to the city, have enjoyed the changing exhibits which the hobby windows feature—a continuous hobby show with educational, timely and stimulating displays which are changed at intervals of about three weeks.

Everyone who has a hobby likes to share it, to show it, and to talk about it. Local and state fairs do not cover hobbies, and frequently very fine collections are unknown and unseen except by immediate friends. It was this thought which prompted a six weeks' search for a window available for the display of hobby collections. The window found, it wasn't an easy task to get the first exhibit. The risk of breakage or loss seemed too great. Assured that every precaution would be taken, the owner finally gave her consent and the two hundred and fifty vases were packed and placed in the window. Her name, Hobbies Magazine, and a "Lincoln Hobby Window" sign completed the picture. It was an unforgettable display—Parian hand vase, Venetian glass peacock, and a purple ribbon hand-painted "State Champion Winner."

The next exhibit came more easily. The window changed from vases to Chinese art, Mexican treasures, and Indian dolls. At Christmas time, two hundred old china-

By **NELLIE McVEY KUSKA**
Lincoln, Nebraska

Mrs. Kuska, who is known as the "hobby lady," makes it her hobby to find out what other people's hobbies are and to display them where they may be enjoyed by all. She herself collects old buttons, bottles, dolls and dishes, and appreciating as she does the value of the treasures she handles, it is her desire to instill in those who see the displays a love for things old and traditional.

headed dolls, large and small, reminiscent of our grandmothers' day, greeted the holiday throngs. A small corner window which had housed various advertising material had now been outgrown, and the dolls occupied the larger window which had been previously promised. Subsequent collections have continued to keep them all filled. Each change is announced by the

local radio station.

Dolls were replaced by bottles, two hundred and thirty-four of them, the smallest, one inch high and three-sixteenths inch in diameter; bells of all kinds—church, school, mission, Chinese, camel, elephant and amberina; a high school boy's miniature navy fleet of cruisers and bombers to the number of 190; eighty old individual salts; old pictures; samplers; stamp collections; early American pattern glassware; 500 salt and pepper sets; and a university student's ninety-five pen and ink portraits of famous people autographed by the celebrities themselves, including Will Rogers, Madame Schumann-Heink, Neville Chamberlain, Amelia Earhart, General Pershing and others.

Large and small collections fit in the windows, and they come from all ages. Preschool children exhibit their hobbies of buttons, belt buckles, statues, china dogs, glass slippers, pitchers. From older people come the heirlooms of earlier generations, such as clover leaf dishes, Wedgewood, Spode, Royal Doulton, Bennington, teapots, jugs, Majolica, colored glassware, Tiffany, teakwood, valentines, button charm

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The "hobby lady" holds up for display a Sandwich glass decanter taken from her own collection of bottles



Treasures Everywhere!

THE RUMBLE of the cement mixer droned on endlessly. Sweaty men shoveled batches of sand, gravel, and cement into its turning maw. Other men with wheelbarrows rolled the freshly mixed concrete to the waiting forms. And around the edge of activity, gathered in a constantly maintained though ever changing line, was the inevitable company of onlookers—the curbstone superintendents and straw bosses who are a part of every construction job.

Like all of its kind, that line of spectators was a cross section of the youthful, the idle, and the curious. It was a veritable forum of political and economic discussion, village wit, and adolescent enthusiasm.

Outwardly, it was no different than any of the dozens of other groups which had watched me during my days as a construction worker. Yet within its ranks was the one individual who stood out above them all.

One day he said to me:

"You young fellows, I know how you feel. I was twenty once, myself. But you want to get over that habit of legging it down the street with no time or interest for anyone but your girl friends. You're missing too much."

In a few brief conversations with this man—he was an almost constant watcher on that job—I had already learned not to be surprised at anything he said. So I merely smiled and nodded that I understood. Whereupon he continued with this further advice:

"When you see an old man standing on a street corner looking up into people's faces, stop for a few minutes and talk to him. He's all alone and lonesome. He's hungry for someone to talk to. Life isn't as bright for him as it used to be. He needs someone to cheer him up. Swing up to him and say, 'Hello there, Dad. What d'ya know today?' Those old fellows haven't been in cages all their lives. There's things they can tell you young bucks. Some of those old fellows are veritable gold mines of interest."

Unusual advice, wasn't it, considering the cir-

"There are so many, many wonderful things in the world; so many beautiful and mysterious things. But not many people like to talk about them."

By SANFORD T. WHITMAN
Hillsboro, Oregon

cumstances? Good advice, too, as my immediate and continued investigation proved. Good advice every day of the year.

Looking about me, I found on every side an astonishing amount of the substance of human drama—bits of descrip-

tion, brief narrations, hot coals of argumentation, and at times beautifully terse expositions.

There was, for instance, the weathered, seventy year old foreman on that very job. I knew he had been a wanderer in his earlier days, and concluded he would be a good subject on which to start my investigations. I was not in error. Responding to my interest with an eagerness I had never before seen in him, he drew back the curtain covering fifty years of roaming through the states of the Southwest.

"One time I was taking my family through the badlands of west Texas," he told me. "We hadn't had a drop of water all day, and towards evening, knowing we had to have it soon or die, I let the horses have the lines. If there was water anywhere around, I knew they'd find it."

"For hours we sat in the wagon and let the team drag us over the wilderness. Darkness came and still no water. We were in strange country, but we didn't dare stop."

"Sometime that night we felt the wagon hit soft ground. Presently we heard the horses' feet splashing in water. Somewhere, in the way that horses do, my team had found a water hole."

"We were too far gone with thirst and sleep to care about anything but getting a drink. We sat there in the darkness, dipping the water up over the side of the wagon, trying to drink it slowly when we were dying to gulp it down."

"When the horses had had their fill, I tried to turn them around and pull up to dry ground. We finally made it, or I wouldn't be telling about it today, but the team and wagon were so nearly mired down I hate to think about it even now."

He paused, and I thought the story was ended. Just as I was about to remark on his experience, he finished:

"Our beds were in the wagon, and we unhitched

the horses and turned in without bothering to light the lantern. Next morning, when we got up and looked at the water hole in daylight, we could see the bones and carcasses of dead cattle sticking out of the water. They had waded in for a drink like we had, and mired down."

From a neighbor, a near centenarian who lived next door, I heard a first-hand account of a trip across the plains in an immigrant train. Because her father's wagon was loaded with tools and supplies for their new home in the West, this woman, then a small girl, walked the entire distance from their starting point in Indiana to the eastern foothills of the Cascade Mountains. The account of that trip and the days of her young womanhood on her father's donation land claim were a living, pulsing part of one of the great development eras of the continent. And not a day passed without its scores of thrill-hunting travelers rushing madly along the highway which passed her home.

Then, as if to show that no one year has an advantage in this respect, there was the bearded gentleman who only a few days ago walked up to the threshing machine where I was sewing sacks and for half an hour entertained the separator crew with his lively manner and interesting stories. Very clearly he was not only a part of another generation, but one who stood apart from the mass.

With his blue eyes smiling and his very prominent teeth showing, he jovially informed us, and this in this wearisome year of 1941, that his good suit of clothes, which he still wore, had been purchased in—yes, in 1912! Moreover, it had cost him all of \$13! Such facts and figures not only give a clear insight into human character; what they stand for in wear and cost is meat for comparative meditation.

Dull people? Boring conversations? Yes, dull and boring as—well, say, as finding a ten dollar bill! "Veritable gold mines of interest" my adviser had said they were. And veritable gold mines of interest and information I have found, and am still finding, them to be. Are all elderly people such troves of treasure?

My experience has been that every old person has a streak of interest somewhere, though at times it may be deeply buried. One such was a skilled tradesman of an earlier day. He was a splendid neighbor, kindly, generous, and talkative. That was the trouble. He liked

to talk too well, or so I thought, anyway. And he had a seemingly iron-bound habit of jumping the track, changing directions, and arriving at an unforeseen destination.

Admittedly, it made for bad listening. For several years I visited his home only rarely. But that was before I asked him about compass saws!

For some reason the compass saw I had just purchased had no set. Knowing nothing at all about such saws, I was stuck.

One day I asked this neighbor if a compass saw could, or should, be set.

"Why-a, yes. Yes," he said, his expression brightening rapidly.

He explained further, with words and gestures. "They've got to have quite a bit of set. Otherwise how you going to turn?"

That's what I wanted to know. Seeing I was interested, he said, "I've got several of them here in my tool chest. I'll show you" — he half turned, hesitated between the chopping block where he had been resting and the big chest of tools on the work bench — "if you have the time?"

Have the time? With that expression of childish enthusiasm on his face? With that boy-off-on-a-fishing-trip tone in his voice? I had the time, yes. Plenty of time. All afternoon, if necessary.

Entirely by accident I had found the way to this man's inner self. Swiftly the years rolled back. One by one he showed me his tools, many of them long out of date. He told me where many of them had been bought, what they had cost, and related some of the circumstances which surrounded their purchase.

With his tools in his hands, his habit of mental wandering vanished. The stories began to flow, orderly, full of spice — character sketches of men he had worked with and for, bits of adventure, narrative, mystery, all etched on a background of humor. Instead of being the pointless talker I had thought him to be, he proved a fetching storyteller.

Occasionally these treasures of homely entertainment are not only deeply buried, but come out

of the ground with all the earthy appearances of the basest ore. While some require digging and some must be sought behind unpromising exteriors, others lie about on the surface awaiting only to be claimed.

An old man who once moved into a dingy two room apartment near my home fairly

"Riches of genuine and lasting entertainment are everywhere around you. No matter where you are, right there, lying about on every hand, are huge nuggets of adventure, bright jewels of romance and narrative, complex patterns of mystery, and vast stores of humor. They are there, all of them, and there in abundance. And they may be yours for surprisingly little effort."



Courtesy Girl Scouts, Inc.

**Old age is a treasure store of skills
as well as of interesting information**

bulged with such valuables.

Night after night I passed his place and saw him through his curtainless window, sitting silently by his fire, his room dimly lit by the yellow light of a low-burning kerosene lamp.

A few days of it was all I could stand. Knocking on his door, I introduced myself as informally as I could. As I suspected, he was an intensely lonely old man, a Norwegian who had come to America in his youth. In his life he had made and lost three fortunes, and now subsisted on county support.

Visiting him frequently, I learned that his long life had been crowded with triumphs and defeats. He had been a mill man, a homesteader, a timber cruiser, and had done considerable prospecting. His tales of homesteading were to me particularly vivid and drawing: the locating of the claim, the construction of the cable bridge over the roaring mountain river, the building of the log cabin and the road in to the claim, the clearing of the land, and finally the intrigue wherein he lost the whole effort. A saga it was, of an era that will never return.

He wove many fine stories around several gold bearing rivers of the West, and his accounts of his

days as a cruiser in the forests of the Northwest were all that

any boy of twelve could wish.

One day while talking about compasses — we talked of the most unusual things! — I made some minor reference to the difference between a magnetic and gyroscopic compass. Instantly he seized upon my words, and for two hours we kept up a rapid fire discussion about such phenomena as magnetism, electricity, and light, touching such specific yet imponderable details as the magnetic pole, polar lights, and cosmic radiation.

At last I had to go. My host followed me to the door, then into the yard. He insisted again and again that I must come back soon. When he could hold me no longer, he said, and his whole being was aquiver with enthusiasm:

"There are so many, many wonderful things in the world. So many beautiful and mysterious things. But not many people like to talk about them."

Could I do otherwise than cherish the memory of such a visit, and such a man?

Of course it is a mistake to assume that such treasures repose only in the aged. The old folks

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Recreation in a State Hospital

By ANNA H. FURMAN
Director of Recreational Therapy
State Hospital
Trenton, New Jersey

A RECREATIONAL therapist working with patients in a mental institution must be willing to give herself enthusiastically and joyously every day to the group, for the individual in an institution of this type looks forward eagerly to the time when he may take part in some form of recreational activity.

During the winter months a recreation room capable of accommodating an audience of from 550 to 600 provides the facilities for the classes held each morning at the State Hospital at Trenton. The men in groups of from twenty to twenty-five enjoy ping-pong, shuffleboard, ring toss, volleyball, and badminton. Similar classes for women provide table polo and bowling in addition to the games mentioned. Groups of depressed people are given simple calisthenics and singing, while manics use less active games.

All groups, we have found, respond to folk and creative dancing; music and figures in some form make a strong appeal. Music has a pronounced lifting power; it fills a place in the hearts of our people that nothing else does. The latent artistic instinct is brought to the surface, and the incentive to do his best is strong in whatever endeavor made by the individual whether listening or taking part in some form of activity involving music—a community sing, a short drama, a folk dance, or social dancing.

It is always possible to stimulate interest by beginning a class with music; with groups of older folks a familiar hymn, folk song, an old southern melody or one of Stephen Foster's tunes of which they are all very fond. Then may come a simple game of ball catching, followed perhaps by the less difficult steps of a folk dance. Younger people will engage in lively games of indoor bowling and table polo, while popular songs of the day are sung with enthusiasm and spirit. Through these contacts on the

"As a form of situational therapy in its capacity to assist the patient to form more acceptable personal habits and more socialized intra- and extramural readjustments, recreational therapy will very probably develop its greatest possibilities in the modern treatment of the mentally ill."—*John Eisele Davis in Principles and Practice of Recreational Therapy.*

"Music serves as a dynamic emotional approach to individuals and groups, and as an educative treatment of the effectivity for individual and social integration." — *Dr. William van de Wall in Music in Institutions.*

wards we try to maintain the same interest on the part of the patient in the world outside as he had before his admission to the institution.

A most delightful outdoor recreation center has been completed about half a mile from the dormitories. During the summer the walk to and from the center is greatly enjoyed. There on the greensward, surrounded by charming old trees, our people spend some of their happiest moments taking part

in games of shuffleboard, ring toss, rubber dart throwing, Swedish ring toss, and bowling on the green. Our outdoor fireplace affords a vast amount of pleasure when groups of forty or fifty people gather around it for a feast of hot coffee, rolls, frankfurters, and bacon served right off the grill.

Some Outstanding Programs

A very inspiring and educational evening was spent with Ted Shawn, famous dancer. The comments written by a number of the individuals after Mr. Shawn's program showed the joy everyone experienced in the unusual privilege they had enjoyed. Elizabeth Burchenal has taught several classes, and all have taken part with fine spirit in the delightful folk dances. Three concerts and a play listed by the Antrim Bureau in Philadelphia were found to be very entertaining and beneficial to our groups.

Our Christmas party was attended by about a thousand people. First a religious cantata was presented by members of the recreation classes in our delightful old chapel. Afterward all were invited to come to the recreation room, decorated appropriately for the season, to enjoy hot chocolate, sandwiches, cookies, and candy served by members of our board of managers and wives of the staff doctors. During the afternoon Santa and his reindeer appeared laden with gifts to cheer everybody. Happy and proud in the

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Service to the Church

Through

Leadership Training

MINISTERS TODAY are learning the importance of the fact that religion is closely tied up with the social interests of young people. They are discovering that these social needs must be served in the church if participation in the church program by large groups of young people is to be hoped for. However, pastors are finding it increasingly difficult because of the demands on their time to give this phase of their religious work the necessary attention.

The church needs leaders who are members of the church and who take part in its program. Every church has young people with potential ability for leadership in the social program. These leaders, however, do not know how to go about planning a social party that will interest and attract the young people of the church.

The organization of a well planned social recreation institute is an effective means of serving this need. The institute programs must be interesting to encourage regular attendance, and they must be more than mere social parties. The young people and adults who enroll in the institutes must have a broader interest than just that of having a good time.

In achieving the purpose of the social recreation institute the training of leaders to conduct socials and parties for young people and adults in the church, school, college, and home, careful organization is necessary.

Committee Organization and Leadership

The Executive Committee. The success of this entire project lies in the committee organization and leadership. In our training experiment the pastor best informed on young people's socials was appointed to serve as chairman of the executive committee. A committee of twenty members was selected with the purpose of representing as many church denominations

This article has been written in considerable detail so that leaders interested in conducting social recreation institutes may benefit fully by the experience of the Y.M.C.A. of Indianapolis. The suggestions offered will be helpful to any community group organizing institutes though the particular reference here is to churches. There is great need for the training of leaders within the churches at a time when these institutions are doing so much to help provide recreation for the men in uniform.

By E. R. HALLOCK

Director

Health and Recreation Department
Central Y.M.C.A.
Indianapolis, Indiana

on the committee as possible. Experienced recreation leaders from the churches, Y.W.C.A. and Y.M.C.A., were also appointed to serve on the executive committee.

The function of the executive committee is to determine the policies of the institute, to set important dates, to serve as a clearing house for all important issues, and to aid in avoiding any conflicts with other organizations and the churches in respect to scheduled dates, program content and local policies.

This committee holds three meetings during the Lenten period in the spring. At this time an institute is organized and set up for twelve months in advance. The executive committee also holds a meeting in the fall for a mid-season evaluation of the project.

Registration and Attendance Committee. Members from the executive committee are appointed by the chairman to serve on the registration and attendance committee, which has ten members including a chairman.

This is a very important sub-committee since it is responsible for the quantity and quality of leaders that are selected for enrollment by church pastors or church young people's directors. Each member of this committee is assigned one or

more church denominations for which he is responsible as far as enrollees are concerned. The attendance records and registration fees are handled by this committee.

Two members of the committee are assigned to each institute program to take the attendance and to collect all fees. On the evening of the institute program, a form postcard is filled out and mailed to all absentees reminding them that they were missed and urging them to attend the next program. In case no enrollees are present from any one church, a member of the attendance committee makes a personal contact with the pastor or young people's director of that church. This systematic, repeating method of checking on absentees may at first seem unnecessary. However, it has been the experience of this institute that all methods of encouragement should be used to obtain a regular attendance throughout the course of the year. It is imperative that each enrollee attend at least eighty per cent of the programs offered in order to obtain a complete training course.

Program Committee. The program committee is made up of eight experienced recreation directors and a chairman. The members of this committee are also members of the executive committee. These experienced recreation directors are drawn from the Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., City Recreation Department, and the churches.

The function of the program committee is to plan the theme and title and content of each party program. Each member of the program committee is responsible for directing one of the eight social recreation institute programs that are scheduled over a period of twelve months. The Indianapolis Church Social Recreation Institute training courses for the seasons—April 1, 1940 to February 6, 1941, and May 6, 1941 to February 9, 1942, are scheduled as follows:

1940—1941

April 1st—Leap Year Mixer
May 6th—Tramp Picnic
June 3rd—Beach Frolics
October 7th—Hallowe'en Programs
November 4th—Thanksgiving Party Program
December 2nd—Christmas Socials
January 4th—Games for Parties
February 6th—Pitch-in-Banquet

1941—1942

May 6th—May Festival
June 2nd—Pitch-in-Picnic
September 8th—Eat and Hike
October 6th—Creative Party (Pantomimes-Charades)
November 3rd—Old Settlers' Reunion

December 1st—Christmas Socials
January 12th—Twelfth Nite Jamboree
February 9th—Singing Tables

Insofar as possible, the theme of the program is seasonable. However, the program content is varied from year to year to avoid repetition.

Each enrollee of the institute is requested to assist on a committee for the promotion of at least one program. Each enrollee is given a ballot to fill out, indicating his first, second, and third choice as to the program on which he wishes to serve. Through this method each recreation director has ten or more members on his committee to assist in the conducting of the social.

It is the responsibility of the program committee chairman to get in touch with the recreation director six weeks before his program is due, reminding him that he should make contacts with his special committee and should attend the social scheduled previous to his own so that he may publicize his program in advance. This method of promotion gives the director an opportunity to become better acquainted with the group he is to serve.

Refreshment Committee. At the end of each evening's program and discussion period refreshments are served. A chairman of the refreshment committee is appointed for the duration of the institute training course. The special committees that are selected to assist the recreation director are also responsible for the serving of the refreshments under the leadership of the refreshment committee chairman.

The refreshment expenses are defrayed with a ten cent fee that is collected each night.

Method of Promotion and Techniques

Enrollment and Attendance. A maximum enrollment of four leaders from any one church or organization is accepted. The enrollment fee is fifty cents per person for the complete series of eight programs.

Each church and organization is asked to select a boy and a girl of high school age and a young man and young woman twenty years of age or over. This plan of selection of leaders makes it possible to train mature leaders and at the same time train leaders that understand the needs and desires of the teen-age group of young people.

Method of Enrollment. A special letter signed by the chairman of the executive committee is sent out to all pastors, informing them that a letter

enclosing the institute program folder and entry blanks has been mailed to the young people's director or the Sunday School superintendent of his church. In the case of small churches, this material is sent directly to the pastor. A deadline is set for all entries at ten days in advance of the first program of the year. Each church is urged to select young people carefully on the basis of their potential leadership ability.

Recreation Library Booth. The recreation library booth is a new feature of our institute inaugurated this year. The purpose of this booth is to furnish a supply of recreation pamphlets, booklets and books that are especially designed for young people's social party programs. Some of the pamphlets are free. Books and other literature are sold at the booth at cost.

Program Folder. A program folder is printed by the publicity committee which is used throughout the year as a source of reference. This folder includes the purpose of the institute, enrollment requirements, lists of the executive committee and the churches they represent; the program schedule for eight months, including date, place and title of programs; registrations and attendance committee names, program committee and entertainment committee names, an announcement about the recreation library booth, and the schedule of the registration committee's assignments to the program.

The Social Recreation Kit

The recreation director who is assigned to the first party program of the year is requested to write general "hints to leaders" which is attached to the mimeographed copy of the first party program. The members of the institute are asked to study these hints so that they can use them when they assist with the directing of future institute programs. The seven remaining programs also include hints to leaders. However, these hints pertain to the specific program.

Each party program is written up in detail so that it includes suggestions to leaders, pre-party games or mixers, as well as the party details. Any competent young person or adult can arrange and direct a party for his church or club through the use of one of those programs. Program copies are also mailed each month to the pastors of the churches that have enrollees in the institute.

At the end of a year, the eight programs are bound together into packets. These social recreation kits are sold at cost to churches and organizations.

Participation

During the first year this project was conducted on an institute basis, ninety-seven selected leaders enrolled in the institute. These leaders represented twenty-six different churches. The average attendance at each program was about fifty. During the second year of this institute 105 selected leaders have enrolled in the institute. The average attendance to date is sixty-five.

Young people or adults are allowed to enroll in the institute from year to year. In spite of this fact, the per cent of turn over is about two thirds of the total enrollment.

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No social recreation leader has had adequate training unless he can conduct a Hallowe'en party successfully!



Courtesy Madison Square Boys' Club, New York City



Teen-Age Fun in Conservation Camps

BACK IN 1934, Minnesota, through T. A. Erickson, State 4-H Club leader, persuaded 43,000 boys and girls to take up conservation projects, and thus there was initiated a youth activity which became a national habit. There was a wide variety of these projects, each young person selecting the one which appealed most strongly to him. One boy would hatch and raise quail or pheasants in his own backyard. Another would select a game preserve for his project, taking over a piece of worthless land on his father's farm, planting game covers, sowing seeds for the birds, and closing the area to hunting while the game population restocked itself. Still another would take up the winter feeding of birds and would build birdhouses.

These activities not only served a constructive purpose but they gave each boy the thrill of a new and interesting experience. It was great fun to fraternize with birds he had always associated with weed patches, brush piles, all-day hunting, and quick trigger work, and it was thrilling for him to think of himself as a producer instead of an exterminator.

But while these forestry and game projects were

By **ROSS L. HOLMAN**
Nashville, Tennessee

in themselves interesting, Mr. Erickson combined with them a large amount of recreation. A businessman of the Twin Cities donated

\$1,000 for educational and recreational trips which included county outings and an annual state-wide camping trip to Itasca State Park. On this yearly frolic every county was allowed to send one or two boys. In order to earn a trip to this three-day camp with all his expenses paid, a boy had to be the conservation winner of his county. His work was scored on actual accomplishment plus a narrative report entitled "My Contribution to the Conservation of Wildlife in 19—."

Minnesota's program was so successful that one state after another took it up. To a state-wide jamboree held recently in Montgomery Bell Park in middle Tennessee, under the leadership of G. L. Herrington, State 4-H leader, there came sixty-two county 4-H winners, who enjoyed a program of games, swimming, forestry classes, fish and game studies, and conservation movies.

The railroads gave free transportation to the location, and federal funds met all camp expenses with the exception of a dollar registration fee. The importance of the federal contribution might

well be measured in terms of food consumption! What sixty-two teen-age appetites could do to a pile of steak, onions, and spinach after a day of sports must be seen to be appreciated! Food of every variety came off the griddle to the twelve tables over a ceaseless line of communications as long as an appetite beckoned.

The camp was in the center of a 3,200 acre national forest—an ideal location for hikes, nature study, and games. The cabins where the boys slept were in a dense section of the woodland with trees and jungle coming up to window sills. The daily program consisted of classes of study in forestry, wildlife, trees, and note taking. There were winter feeding demonstrations, horseshoe pitching, dart throwing, and table tennis. Following more classes came baseball and more swimming until sundown. After supper there were conservation movies, slides, and lectures.

At this meeting each boy got a picture of the work being done in other parts of the state which he carried back to his own community. Club members and leaders swapped experiences. The assistant county agent from Jonesboro told of the 7,000 acre game preserve in Washington County made possible by a number of farmers who signed up their lands for a protected game area and closed them to hunting. The sons of these farmers and others carried on forestry and game projects of every description.

There was Billy Brummitt who, in his own brooder,

raised to the age of six weeks seventy-six quail which he had secured from the State Conservation Commission as day-old chicks. He made his own brooders, with the exception of the heating unit, from plans furnished by the Commission. He fed the birds a turkey mash and literally lived with them until he turned them back to the state for restocking. Other thirteen and fourteen year old boys were cited as having achieved great success. Some had taken fifty and sixty acre game preserves for projects. Still others had planted game covers and engaged in winter feeding to save game birds from starvation.

The annual state-wide camps are an example of what each county is doing on a smaller scale. At all of them there are plenty of activities in which fun and recreation are mingled with hard work and elbow

4-H Club boys learn to make fire breaks to prevent the spread of forest fires



grease. Many of these local camps last from three days to one week and may be attended by boys from one or two counties. Others are one-day affairs.

The Wisconsin Service Director in one of his reports describes the kind of one-day meets they have in his state:

"The one-day camp consists of a complete day's program beginning in the early morning and continuing until late at night. The club gathers at some suitable camp ground at the hour planned. The forenoon is given to project instruction, demonstrations, nature study and hikes, and the afternoon to games, stunts, swimming,

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A Recreation Center for Pueblo, Colorado

THE COMPLETION of the first community center building to be constructed

in Pueblo, Colorado, is announced by John A. Getts, Juvenile Recreation Director in the Pueblo Recreation Commission. Fulton Heights, a highly congested Spanish-American section of the city, with a total population of 1,015, was chosen as the site for the building. In this area sometimes as many as fifteen persons reside in adjoining adobe huts on one lot of ground. The majority of residents are children, and guidance in wholesome recreation activities is needed for them, as well as for the youth and adults.

Dedication exercises, which took place on November 23rd, were arranged by the Pueblo Recreation Commission, and included a well-rounded program of recreation events, among which were musical and dance numbers, performed in native costume and a concert given by the WPA band and orchestra. Participating in the exercises were representatives from the community itself, Recreation Commission officials, city and county officials, PTA and WPA representatives, and members of the Chamber of Commerce.

Significant in this development is the fact that the center was built through cooperative efforts: the Pueblo Recreation Commission purchased the land for the building, after the owners, in consideration of the purpose which the community

A new recreation center which is a genuine community venture

center was to serve, had lowered the original price; the Board of Pueblo County Commissioners, through the

WPA, furnished the materials and constructed the building; the residents of the Spanish-American community molded 8,000 adobe blocks which they donated to the project to form the walls of the building.

The building itself is of frame and stucco with an interior 88 x 48 feet. It includes a large gymnasium, small game rooms, ticket office, stage, two dressing and shower rooms, and a basement in which a well has been dug and a heating plant installed.

Authority for building administration and program responsibilities has been placed in the Pueblo Recreation Commission. The building is under the general direction of a director from the Commission. WPA recreation leaders and community leaders are to be used for programs at the center. An effort will be made to develop community leaders among the residents of the district itself.

In daily operation at the center are table tennis, shuffleboard, gymnastics, dramatics, checkers, badminton, and other seasonal sports. The building will also be available for meetings, concerts, dances and various entertainments. Recreation

Commission officials are anxious that Pueblo's first community center building will be developed along complete pro-

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Residents of Fulton Heights have a very real feeling of ownership in this center since they themselves molded and donated the 8,000 adobe bricks which went into its walls



The National Recreation Association

and

Defense Recreation

IN ORDER TO MAKE AVAILABLE for the national defense recreation program its resources and experience, the National Recreation Association took the following steps:

1. Immediately sent certain of its best field workers out to help communities near training camps to organize to help the men in uniform.
2. Stood for giving all groups in the United States an equal chance to help in service for the men in uniform and the men in defense industry.
3. Made its knowledge and experience available to the leaders in the Federal Government at Washington.
4. Gave time and service in connection with the National Education-Recreation Council in an effort to have the education-recreation agencies work co-operatively in the defense emergency to help develop national unity and morale.
5. Reprinted thousands of copies of various reports and documents used in the last World War and distributed them widely to Government departments, military authorities and community leaders as a possible guide of action in the present emergency.
6. Secured a loan to enable the Federal Security Agency to immediately send out coordinators to communities near camps.
7. Released on leave of absence certain of its best workers, who could ill be spared, to help under the Federal Security Agency in the defense community work in localities.
8. Prepared a special pamphlet, "Music and Men," and with the approval of the War Department distributed it widely to the recreation officers, morale officers, chaplains, and community leaders.
9. Loaned Thomas E. Rivers, a staff worker of the National Recreation Association, to the Federal Security Agency to take responsibility for helping to recruit some 70 to 80 community organizers.
10. Kept a staff representative in Washington, D. C., much of the time to make available the Association's experience.
11. Through regular district representatives gave service to many local city government recreation systems in serving men in uniform.
12. Helped mobilize the recreation movement throughout the country for service in defense preparations—through editorials, RECREATION magazine, special leaflets, bulletins, pamphlets.
13. Prepared and printed "He Will Go to Town," now widely used by state and local defense committees, to provide practical suggestions for organizing and conducting service and recreation programs for men

In response to requests made at the National Recreation Congress at Baltimore, we published, in the December issue of *Recreation*, a statement telling of the part played by various agencies in the defense recreation program. This month we are answering the question, "What has the National Recreation Association done for defense?" We are also presenting letters received from officials of the Federal Security Agency with whom the Association is closely cooperating.

in uniform. This was desired by many working in localities, trying to help men in the Army and the Navy.

14. Loaned A. D. Zanzig, music specialist of the National Recreation Association, to help the War Department in planning with reference to music within the Army.
15. Brought together special information on recreation service with reference to defense industrial communities.
16. Compiled statement giving suggestions for effective use of volunteers in defense recreation program.
17. Arranged at Cleveland National Recreation Congress, October 1940, for general discussion and pooling of experience on defense recreation.
18. Arranged also for general discussion of defense recreation problems at each of the 1941 District Conferences of recreation executives.
19. Arranged for many hours to be given at Baltimore Recreation Congress, September 29—October 3, 1941, to recreation problems related to defense.
20. Gave War Department and Navy Department detailed information on training and experience of certain men qualified to help with recreation within the Army and within the Navy.
21. Worked to get local communities themselves to take responsibility for meeting recreation needs of men in uniform.
22. Answered inquiries from morale officers, chaplains, hostesses, Red Cross hospital recreation workers, and others working inside the camps.

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Gardens for Recreation

CIVILIZATION follows the furrow. The conquest of the soil is the basic occupation of the race. For that reason, gardening embraces the most cherished activities of man. Cultivation of the varied forms of gardening has always motivated our playtime.

The popular evaluation of gardens for recreation has been given marked proof in the November issue of RECREATION. The physical education survey of James P. Iams shows that gardening, among the graduates of Antioch College, was one of the most popular recreations. Very popular with the men but, with the women, it stood next to the highest of eleven recreation activities. But above all, Mr. Iams relates that gardening was not taught to the undergraduates of Antioch College as were many of the other recreational activities.

Can we have fun with gardening in the winter? Certainly. Some of the old-fashioned, indoor-

By VAN EVRIE KILPATRICK
Executive Vice-President
School Garden Association of New York

In answer to the query, "Can we have fun with gardening in winter?" the writer tells of dozens of different kinds of home gardens which are great fun to make—from a suspended and inverted carrot allowed, like Topsy, to "just grow," to dish gardens in which your imagination may run wild! Is it fun? Why not find out for yourself?

plant effects are ever new. In visiting some friends recently, the lady of the house showed us, with great delight, a sweet potato in a pickle jar of water that had grown beautiful, wavy vines. After telling of her pleasure in this garden pastime, she exhibited a large sponge sown with grass seed that decorated the center of her dining room window.

And all this will remind you of many more of these little home gardens that have come down to us from our great-grandmothers.

There is the suspended and inverted carrot; the beet, turnip, or rutabaga growing in water or soil to yield their second year's growth; the paper white Narcissus, Chinese sacred lily, colchicum and autumn-blooming crocus set in gravel or fibre; the fern ball, the hanging basket; the plants in window boxes; English ivy twigs in water, and a Redwood Burl growing in a shallow bowl of water, all the way from California.



To the amateur gardener, however, the most attractive forms of winter gardens are such indoor hobbies as the following:

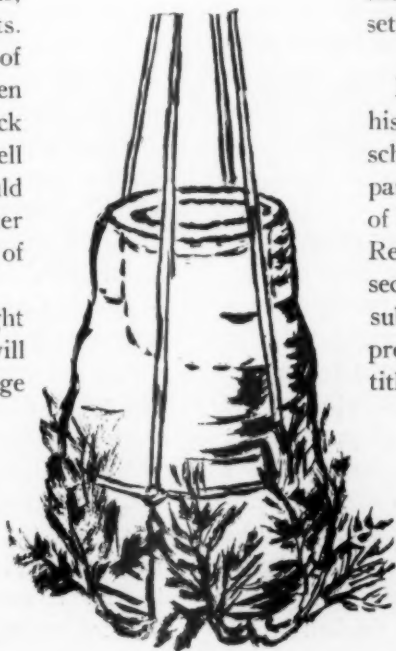
Glass Gardens.

During the winter a terrarium or glass garden makes an effective miniature greenhouse. A fish globe, an aquarium tank, a cracker jar or any glass container with a glass cover may be used. You will enjoy constructing one by cutting window glass to the desired size and setting it up on a rectangular planting pan after binding the edges with adhesive tape. The glass cover should not be fastened. When a terrarium can be kept in a cool place, such woodland plants may be used as mosses, lichens, violets, trilliums, ferns, and partridge berries. But in the usual steam-heated rooms, tropical plants found at florist shops are best. Table ferns, begonias, African violets, peperomias, selaginellas, and helxine are among the many plants good for glass gardens in winter living rooms. The plants should be set in soil at least one inch deep of humus, loam and sand mixed in equal parts. Under the soil place a handful of charcoal to keep the soil sweet, then a half inch of gravel or broken crock for drainage. If the garden is well watered when it is set up, it should not require more for a month. Water requirements depend on tightness of cover and temperature of room.

Dish Gardens. Any deep dish, eight to twelve inches in diameter, will serve as a dish garden. The drainage and soil should be placed in the dish in much the same way as in glass gardens. You will wish to make suitable structure changes according to your motif, which may require stones, sand, gravel, and cement to simulate the landscape picture



you fancy. For this is the joy of dish gardening. Building your ideal landscape, laying out the lake, the river, the hill, the valley, the desert, the prairie, or whatever you may vision. A sort of dream-land in miniature! Then you furnish it with dainty trees, vines and other plants from the woodlands or the florists. Mosses serve for pastures, sea sand for shores, gravel for brooks. Then come the tiny castles, or the cottage with gate and fence. In short, what imagery this is for your leisure hours! Even when deep snows cover the landscape and chill winds shriek by the window, "gardens for recreation" can be made most attractive. Any light window away from the heating radiator will supply the setting for this recreative pastime.



Mr. Kilpatrick is widely known for his activities in connection with the school garden movement and for the part he has played in the development of school gardens in New York City. Readers of RECREATION interested in securing further information on this subject are referred to the manual prepared by Mr. Kilpatrick under the title, "The School Garden—A Laboratory of Nature." Copies of this interesting and practical booklet may be secured at seventy-five cents each from the School Garden Association of New York, whose headquarters are at 121 East 51st Street. — *The Editor.*

They're Playing Basketball in New York City!

By MAX VOGEL

JUST AS SOFTBALL in the past few years has seized the popular imagination during the spring and summer season, so it is with outdoor basketball during the autumn and early winter — especially on the playgrounds of New York City. From the moment school is out at three o'clock until the floodlights are turned out at ten every available basketball and backboard is being used.

Easily recognizable to the layman is the regulation game of basketball and the modified games of two or three man basketball. But what about those large groups of boys and girls gathered about individual baskets having a most hilarious time with the basketball? These young people are playing games in the originating and developing of which they had a great deal to do; and both girls and boys, young and old, are playing them. A great deal of fun and sociability is resulting from this activity, and the games are health building but not too strenuous for the average child.

Each game needs only one backboard. The most popular feature is that many more players can take an active part in comparison with the limited number of ten in the regulation game. This assures a larger number of participants. Many of the fundamentals of the regulation basketball game are used—passing, shooting, dribbling, and running. They are all definite lead-ups to the official game itself.

Game Adaptations

Knock-Outs and Freeze-Outs. This game can be enjoyed by the many as well as the few. It takes only three participants to start the game; there is no maximum. Also, there is no limited time for this game. The object is to attain the number of points agreed upon before the actual start of the first game. A point is won by the player winning each individual game. The first participant shoots from the 15-foot foul line, and thereafter each player must shoot the ball from the spot where he retrieves it after the shot of the preceding player. If the previous player shoots the ball through the basket, the next in turn must catch the ball before it strikes the ground. A player who fails to catch

It's an encouraging sign when young people themselves begin to make game adaptations and even to originate new games. In New York City baskets and basketballs are providing the take-off to all kinds of fascinating innovations and adaptations.

the ball before it hits the ground is automatically "knocked-out" of this particular game. Each succeeding player must make the ball go through the hoop. If he does not succeed in this he is a "freeze-out," and he too must wait for the next game. The game continues at a swift pace until the winner of this

particular game is acclaimed. He receives one point. After the very first game the winner of each succeeding game gains an advantage. He may win an entire game by successfully shooting the first shot from the 15-foot line.

Frame (a variation of "Knock-Outs and Freeze-Outs"). Instead of making it compulsory for every contestant to shoot the ball successfully through the basket, as in the preceding game, the players need only make a successful throw at the basket after two consecutive players have made their tosses good. When this is done it becomes a "frame," and the next participant missing is automatically eliminated from this particular game. Once there is a miss by a player, the remaining contestants will then try to make it "frame" all over again. When there are only two players remaining the one missing first is eliminated and the other, who is acclaimed the winner, receives a point. The total number of points winning the entire game should be decided by the players before the start of the first game.

This variation lengthens the game and does not call for as much skill as "Knock-Outs and Freeze-Outs." There is a great deal of excitement and cheering during the game especially after the ball is "framed."

Twenty-One. This game is played with two teams, each team consisting of two men. Twenty-one points win each game. The No. 1 man of each team will shoot from the 15-foot foul line. No 2 of each team will shoot from underneath the basket. Team A shoots first. If the basket is made, the team receives two points, and No. 1 continues to shoot until he misses. When he misses, No. 2 of the B team will then try for basket. If successful from underneath the basket, he receives one point. He then throws ball to his

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Hit the Nature Trail

By KENNETH D. MORRISON
Minneapolis, Minnesota

TO FIND respite from nerve-jangling war news, Americans by the

thousands are following William Cullen Bryant's advice to "go forth under the open sky and list to nature's teachings." Tramping along country roadsides and woodland paths, these outdoor enthusiasts return home with tingling blood and refreshed perspectives. They go back to their jobs with renewed energy and a zest for work that mystifies their less active associates. I have met them in the Minnesota River valley, along the clay trails that penetrate the back country of the mysterious Florida Everglades, up in the clouds along winding paths in

the Cumberland Mountains of Tennessee—wherever they are, these clean-cut robust men and women seem to be in search of the America that is beyond the ken of flashing neon, subways and traffic jams.

These modern disciples of Burroughs and Thoreau tell me that this nation can get its "second wind" out in the country. They contend that too many boys and girls are growing up thinking of nature as something that is isolated in Central Park or that lurks menacingly behind the billboards along our federal highways. They are so enthusiastic about the America they have discov-

ered under the Redwoods of California and in the wood lots of Indiana that they are anxious to share their new formula for happiness with others. Here are the items that most of them stress:

Get away from the city. To really appreciate nature, you have to locate spots that are less civilized than city parks and state highways. If you have a car, you can inaugurate Sunday expeditions in search of "little wildernesses." Sometimes they are nearer than you think, and can easily be reached by bus or street car. Minneapolis nature enthusiasts were amazed to discover a tamarack bog within the city limits. They

were even more delighted to find that it supported a large and varied bird population, including such unsuspected nesting species as the Cooper's hawk and long-eared owl. The hikers who "discovered" the bog have started action to have the city purchase the area and designate it a bird sanctuary.

Let nature be a teacher. Most of the amateur naturalists regard their fellow outdoorsmen who get out into the country just in order to hike for exercise as fit subjects for conversion. Their argument is that nature is a jealous guardian of challenging mysteries that every man should seek to solve for himself. Only thus, they say, can a



Photo by Reynold Carlson

person entirely escape from everyday worries and problems.

Don't remain aloof from nature is the secret. When you are hiking and hear a strange bird call, unlimber the field glasses and plunge into the underbrush, if necessary. Follow that bird until you get a good view of it and can identify it from your field guide. Any unrecognized bird or animal call should be regarded as a challenge. If you answer the challenge and follow in hot pursuit, you won't be bothered by income tax blues or worrying about how you're going to serve thirty-five women at next Tuesday's bridge luncheon.

Be a spectator at nature's pageant. There is a difference of opinion here. Some units of the outdoorsmen's army carry guns, but close observation indicates to me that the larger number do not. This does not mean, however, that they are "unprepared." The serious recruits carry field glasses. They say that you can't observe nature more than superficially without them. Others, who have merged their nature and photography hobbies, carry cameras, and a few more are decked out with movie equipment.

So it must not be thought that to leave the gun at home is to abandon the spirit of the chase. The only difference is that the object of the chase lives to be pursued another day. Can it be said, then, that man's urge to bring back trophies of the hunt is growing weaker? Perhaps, but many campfire philosophers believe that the rattling of sabres in Europe has become so loud and insistent that when man seeks relaxation and contentment out of doors, he is now more inclined to leave the gun at home. It is more likely that he will seek a vantage point on some fallen log from which he can be a spectator at nature's pageant. After he has observed the chipmunks scolding and frisking about in the sun, and the song sparrows bubbling over in the thicket, the onlooker will be ready to agree with Archibald Rutledge that "life in the wilderness is not all a grim and constant battle between the forces of life and death. There often come times of relaxation, of playfulness, of airy joy, of drollery, and of the spirit of festival and fiesta. And it is then that nature may be said to doff her somber garb to don her cap and bells."

The evidence that America's often unrecognized "back to nature" trend has gained momentum is apparent on all sides. The Youth Hostel movement has done much to interest young people in

"Fate plays many tricks in its division of worldly goods, taking from some while giving generously to others; but nature, at least, tries to play no favorites by offering lakes, fields and mountains to everyone."

finding recreation in the outdoors rather than in theaters and smoke-filled rooms. A seventeen year old Alabama high school boy describes his 130 mile hiking trip through the solitudes of Great Smoky National Park in an essay published in *Scholastic* magazine.

He reflects his new-found philosophy in these words:

"Sometimes at night we would lie out by our dying camp fire after dinner and enjoy the peace that only campers know. The night at Indian Gap was one of those occasions that bore deep enough into the memory to last a lifetime. There, above the haze of lower altitudes, watching the sparks from our fire wander up among the stars, we seemed to have lost all connection with the feverish world. The Milky Way was an arch bridging two spruces, and the surrounding multitudes of suns, plants and nebulae were a mantle that seemed just to skirt the tree-tops."

Who can deny that this Alabama lad is building up a backlog of down-to-earth values that will serve him long after the lessons of the classroom have been forgotten?

In 1937, the Dean of Dartmouth College called a group of faculty members together to discuss the possibility of starting a movement that would get more of the students out of doors and interested in natural history. Subsequently, Richard Lee Weaver was appointed college naturalist. He was given the rank of instructor in the regular faculty, yet has no classes and is free to be in the field at any time. Student response to the new opportunities has been gratifying. Within a short while after Mr. Weaver's appointment, a number of students asked him to help them form a natural history club. The group takes week-end excursions and sponsors popular afternoon hikes into the countryside around Hanover.

Hiking is not for the young folks exclusively, however. In Minneapolis alone, every month thousands of amateur naturalists from eight to eighty years of age go on specially conducted field trips that are sponsored by such diverse interest groups as the Geological Society, the Field Naturalists' Club, the Audubon Society, the Mineral and Gem Club, the Minnesota Bird Club, and the Botanical Society. One organization, the Municipal Hiking Club, has over 350 members.

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It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

A *ASKA Recreation Camp* has been set up for soldiers in Mount McKinley National Park. Soldiers pay their own transportation, but companies offer reduced rates.

"*Appalachian Trail Users*" is new Publication No. 15, Appalachian Trail Conference, 1624 H Street NW, Washington, D. C. 67 pp. 25 cents. An extremely practical book.

"*Auto Caravan Trip*" over Mt. Greylock, Massachusetts' highest peak. 8 pp. Send 10 cents to Cap'n Bill to cover mailing. This is a conservation trip which you might like to try out at home. Several reprints of editorials on nature education will be included.

"*Bird Houses, Baths and Feeding Shelters, How to Make and Where to Place Them*," Edmund J. Sawyer. Third Edition. Cranbrook Institute of Science. 35 pp., diagrams. 20 cents. Excellent.

Bird Sanctuary, at Lakehurst Naval Air Station, is thoroughly enjoyed by the enlisted men who conduct it. Recreation is more than boxing, basketball, and park benching.

"*Birds of America*," John James Audubon. Macmillan Company, New York. Colored illustrations. \$4.95. Reproductions of the famous "elephant folio" plates which sold for \$12.50 are now within reach of all bird folks.

Brooklyn Botanic Garden describes its work in a new booklet which is dedicated to the Director, Dr. C. Stuart Gager, and written by Ellen Eddy Shaw, Curator of Elementary Instruction. We quote from its crisp pages which start with the belief of Comenius: "As far as possible men are taught to become wise, not by books, but by the Heavens, the earth, oaks, and beeches. . . ." "There has never been any course of study. . . . The grounds are a living laboratory for work, an opportunity to discover the laws and plan of nature. . . . One cannot invest even ten cents . . . without having to

attend and see that he has his money's worth. We always plan to raise extra material to give away. . . . We view our work with sentiment but not with sentimentality."

Conservation. "The Wildlife Conservation Program of the 4-H Clubs in North Carolina." Division of Game and Inland Fisheries, Raleigh, North Carolina, April 1941. 16 pp.

Defense and Nature Recreation. The National Park Service Ranger Naturalists tell the story of conservation to thousands, every day. Recreational area maps have been prepared for the Morale Division of the Army. Nature hobbies for men in service are being studied with a view to organizing programs. The proposed great international park on the Mexican border and the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park on the Canadian boundary are significant.

Desert Recreation, according to George H. Hillis, superintendent of parks and recreation, Phoenix, Arizona, offers 84 per cent of possible sunshine, and secures Vitamin D — essential for teeth, bones, and general growth. With no fire hazard, chuck wagons with western trimmings, eleven species of rattlesnake, greasewood, giant cacti, the mesquite of stories of the West, and Indian petroglyphs — there is a wide range for desert hobbies.

Forest Fires. Oregon has a "Keep Oregon Green" campaign, according to *Current Science*, a weekly publication for junior scientists. For every acre of forest burned in 1940, there were two in 1930, four in 1920, and five in 1910. Over 90 per cent are man-caused. There is still room for improvement.

Forest Products Laboratory (1910), Madison, Wisconsin, has 200 scientists on four acres of floor space, experimenting with wood, plastic buttons, floors, decks of ships, and even costume jewelry. Making wood insect-, fungus-, and fire-resistant is another challenge.

Cap'n Bill says: "The professionally well-prepared leader knows his community. The good recreation program gives evidence that its roots are in the forests, fields, streams and in the parks, and shows awareness of the numerous ways in which the natural world influences child growth. The child must be sensibly guided in this maze of possibilities for experience. Nature-grams are tested experiences put on record in *Recreation*."

Humane Education. "The Home for the Animal Away from Home" has been operating at 366 Albany Street, Boston, since February 15, 1941. One feature is a tub, plus soap and instruction, for boys and girls who are handicapped in bathing their dogs. The Animal Rescue League, 51 Carver Street, Boston, has also maintained a free clinic for animals for more than thirty years, a "Home of Rest for Horses," a corps of ten motor ambulances, and thirteen agents.

Museum News. "Taproots" is the title of a publication from the Trailside Museum, Chicago and Thatcher Avenues, River Forest, Illinois. Virginia Moe is editor. Anyone getting out a trailside publication should put "Taproots" on his exchange list. It is written for those who are neither bontanists or zoologists but who enjoy the flowers and the birds.

Nationality Parties. Camp Fire Girls, Lowry School, Dearborn, Michigan. For example: An Italian Night, with an Italian girl as guest, selections by Italian composers, and all decorations, food and music in Italian style. Appreciation of the cultures of other folks is practical.

"Nature Games," a valuable way of presenting the outdoors. Eighty-seven games in 32 page pamphlet, 10 cents postpaid. Write Cap'n Bill. Also the Nature Guides Dictionary for making nature trails, 17 page pamphlet, 10 cents.

Parks, State. Reports are becoming less formal, more attractive, and interesting reading. The following notes are taken from the report of Albert M. Turner, for twenty-six years the secretary of the Connecticut State Park and Forest Commission. The report covered the fiscal term ended in June 1940. "The primary purpose of forestry may be economic. Provision must be made for outdoor recreation if the stockholders are to remain happy. If man forgets that he is a child of nature, he is in deadly peril. The Indian was a confirmed camper and trailer, but lacked all sense of the private ownership of land. He wouldn't take the land back as a gift. There were only four Indians to the square mile as against our latest count (1940) of 350. The recent trend toward a common holding of large areas of forest is a simple manifestation of a natural revulsion from the artificiality of our present way of life. The sooner the planners recognize the controlling forces at work, the sooner the stockholders are likely to approve the plan."

Penn's Woods. In the Allegheny National Forest near Ludlow, Pennsylvania, 4,131 acres of virgin hemlock-beech forest have been set aside for the education and enjoyment of the public. It will remain undisturbed by motor roads or picnicking. Primeval trees, 300-500 years old, and an interesting animal population including bobcats, snowshoe hares, the gray fox and redbacked mouse in an unspoiled environment.

"Plants in the Home," Frank K. Balthis, Macmillan Company, New York. 172 pp. \$2.50. Timely and practical. Includes miniature hot-houses, indoor rock gardens, and even plants for men.

Public School Camp, Atlanta, Georgia. According to Willis A. Sutton, past president of the NEA and superintendent of schools, the organized camp as an adjunct to a public school system, held in Hard Labor Creek Recreational Area, proved a tremendous success. Better students, happier citizens, less delinquency and better physical and mental preparation resulted. "The effect on the lives of the children was electrical."

Science Clubs of America are now sponsored by Science Service, the institution for popularizing science. Amateurs, high school clubs and groups of all ages will participate. The American Institute of the City of New York organized 800 junior science clubs in the past fourteen years. The Junior Science Fair and the Junior Science Congress are a part of the movement. Broadcasts from Boston Station WRUL, 9:30 P. M., EST, Mondays. Further information from Science Service, 1719 N. Street, NW, Washington, D. C.

"Science Interests and Activities of Adolescents," Herbert S. Zim. Ethical Culture Schools, New York. 256 pp. \$2.50. Research based on study of students.

"Science on Parade," A. F. Collins. D. Appleton-Century Company, New York. 1940. 314 pp. Illustrated. \$3.00. The author is called the "master hobbyist" by his publishers. Recommended for amateurs.

Trail Marking. A lumberman's crayon has been successfully used for blazing trails. It is "out" for next year. Red or white paint is good for red dot or white dot trails. It is no longer good form to blaze with an axe.

Trails. "Footpath in the Wilderness." Middlebury Press, Middlebury, Vermont. \$2.50. A story

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Where Do We Go from Here?

By RUTH CAIN FARRELL
Covington, Kentucky

HELEN MURRAY, a young business girl, was feeling pretty down in dumps at the beginning of one Labor Day week end. She had wanted to spend the last holiday week end of the season in Chicago, and then just a few days before she was supposed to leave, along came a dentist bill that knocked her plans in the head, leaving her about half of the money she needed for her trip.

Late Friday evening she wandered down to the corner drug store to drown her sorrows in a soda, and ran into a girl friend. They were both mildly surprised.

"I thought you'd be out of town, Helen!"

"So did I, Joan, but my finances wouldn't permit it!"

"That's my trouble. My cousin and I were going to drive up to Chicago, but we couldn't quite make the grade financially."

"I wish I had known that before! That's where I was going, too, and maybe if we had all chipped in on the gasoline, we could have gone."

"Why, I suppose we could have. I wish that I had known you wanted to go!"

They were both gloomy for a moment and then Joan had a thought. "Why don't we try to get a crowd together and go down to the State Park at Jeffryville, Monday? It wouldn't cost any of us much if four or five went."

Shop around a little when you're planning your trips! There are often real bargains to be found.

Trips in special trains run for the benefit of hikers and cyclers are inexpensive, and they're great fun, too

They called several friends, explained their plan, and asked them to join the party. On Monday morning eight young people set out for the State Park in two cars. The cost of the gasoline for the two cars was split eight ways, each

person paying fifty cents; the cost for the lunch and the beverage was divided in the same way, with a tax for each of fifty cents. Thus for \$1.00 apiece eight people had a most enjoyable picnic in a delightful spot instead of spending their precious holiday at home.

Since then they have gone many places and seen many things that it would have been almost impossible for them to have done or seen alone. It's a fine plan for young people without a great deal of money to spend on recreation and travel.

It pays to shop around a little when planning an excursion that seems a bit too costly for the pocketbook, for usually there'll be two or three other people close at hand who are in the same boat. You can help each other get where you want to go for less money, and have more fun getting there.

—
"We choose in leisure those things that interest us, and for active participation the things in which we are skilled. There is much greater satisfaction in excelling than in failing, particularly if we are sharing our leisure with friends." —
Helen Pendergast.



Courtesy Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department

Paddle Tennis Grows Up

By MURRAY GELLER
Chairman of Rules Committee
United States Paddle Tennis Association

SOME CHANGES had been made. That was quite obvious to the several hundred spectators gathered in Central Park to witness the thrilling paddle tennis match between Bobby Riggs and his doubles partner, Gene Mako, and the New York City Park Department playground champions, Nat Baron and Jack Slotnick.

Something *new* had been added! By simply raising the height of the net four inches; by adding five feet to the length and two feet to the width of the court; and by allowing only one serve instead of two (for adults), thus balancing the advantage between server and receiver, paddle tennis has grown to be a most fascinating all-year-round sport attractive to the champion as well as to the novice.

Bobby Riggs is an enthusiastic paddle tennis devotee. He claims that it improves his net game and footwork. The exhibition match at Central Park was played two weeks before he

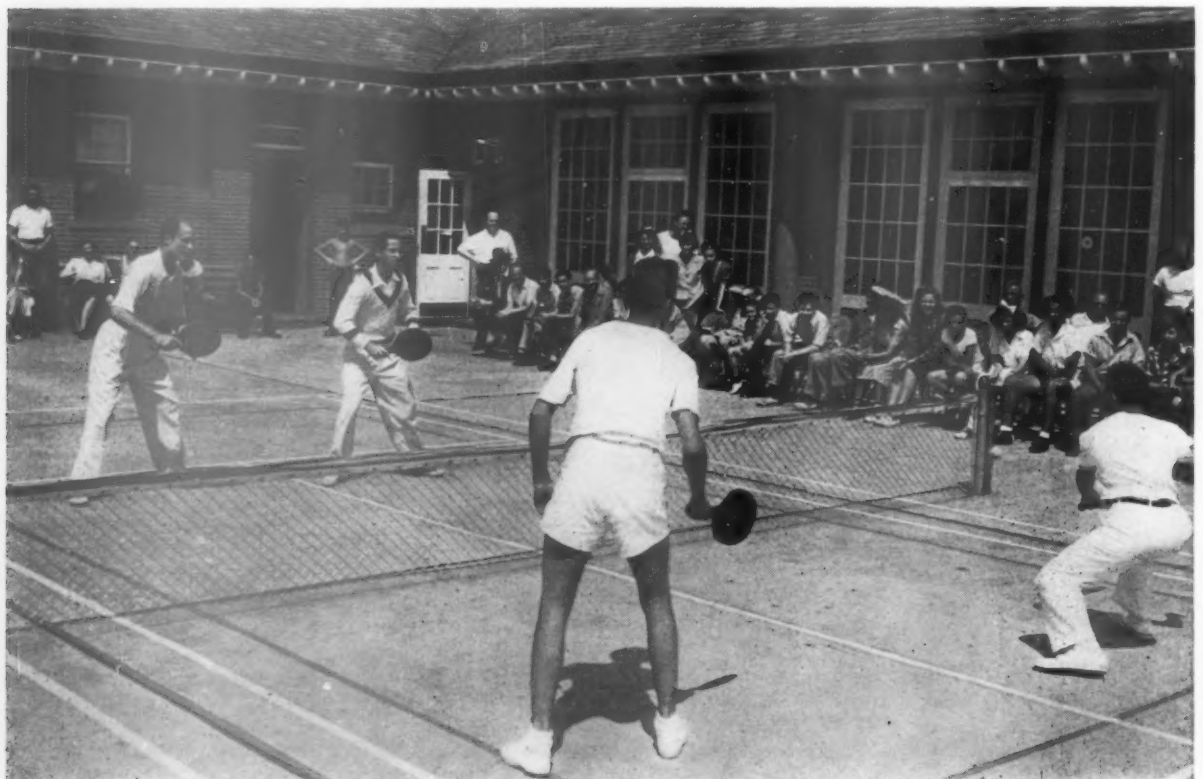
won the national lawn tennis championship at Forest Hills in September. Although the development of champions is

desirable from the standpoint of arousing interest and the satisfaction of that most wholesome phase of democracy, the ambition of the youngster (from both sides of the railroad track) to become a champion, paddle tennis is a game for the player rather than for the spectator.

Paddle tennis is the natural answer to the playground, industrial, housing, military, and naval recreation directors' desire for an all-year-round, highly competitive, inexpensive, easily constructed activity that keeps its players in top physical condition and is lots of fun. The 377 paddle tennis courts in the New York City Park Department playgrounds, many of which are floodlighted for night play, are in great demand by children and

grown-ups alike. Many more courts are being constructed. Parkchester, the world's largest housing development, owned by the

Bobby Riggs, American Davis Cup star, is shown playing in the paddle tennis exhibition match at Central Park. At the age of fifteen he was the boy champion in paddle tennis on the Los Angeles playgrounds.



Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, has seven 44' courts in constant use. It is by far the most popular winter and summer sport among their 34,000 tenants. Harland Sickman, Manager of Recreation, brought a strong delegation of paddle tennis players from Parkchester for a very successful invasion of our 1941 national outdoor championship tournament.

Recreation officers are faced with a difficult situation in supplying expensive lawn tennis equipment for the many tennis enthusiasts in our armed forces. Paddle tennis is the answer to their problem. Veteran tennis players love the game, with its fast returns, accent on net play, and lightning footwork. The 44' court permits artful lobbing and hard driving. It is no "sissy's" game. Although anyone can enjoy a game of paddle tennis the first time he gets on a court, it takes a real athlete to play in championship company. Indeed, many players prefer paddle tennis to lawn tennis.

The questions and answers which follow the official rules will, it is hoped, dispel the confusion which seems to exist among many recreation directors and players concerning this rapidly growing game.

Official Paddle Tennis Rules

(as adopted by the rules committee of the U. S. P. T. A.)

The playing rules of the United States Lawn Tennis Association shall govern except as follows:

DIMENSIONS OF COURT

Junior Court—for players up to 16 years (see diagram)

Singles—13½' x 39' Doubles—18' x 39'

Height of net, 2' 2" at center; 2' 4" at posts.

Posts shall be 18 inches from side lines and there shall be a space behind each baseline of not less than 10½ feet, and at the sides, of not less than 6 feet.

Senior Court—for players 16 years of age and over. (see

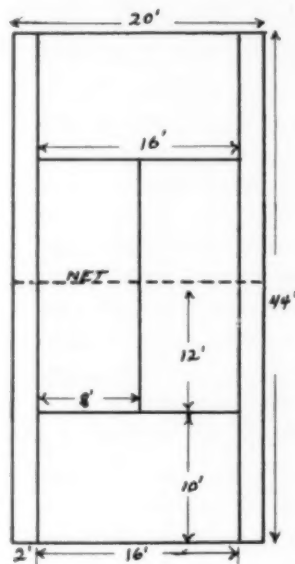
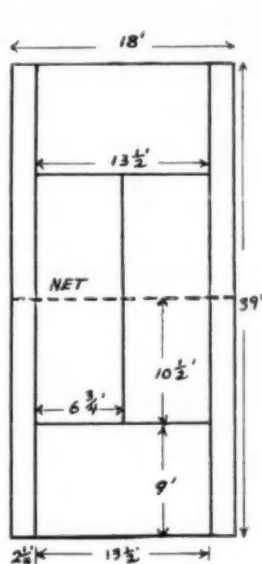


diagram)

Singles—16' x 44'

Doubles—20' x 44'

Height of net 2' 6" at center; 2' 9" at posts.

Posts shall be 18 inches from side lines and there shall be a space behind each baseline of not less than 13 feet, and at the sides of not less than 6 feet. In the case of U. S. P. T. A. championship tournaments there shall be a space behind each baseline of not less than 15 feet, and at the sides of not less than 8 feet.

PLAYING RULES AND SCORING

For Juniors—Exactly as in lawn tennis.

For Seniors—Exactly as in lawn tennis with one exception. Only one serve shall be allowed. If for any reason the serve be a fault, the server loses that point.

EQUIPMENT

1. Paddle tennis paddle—laminated hardwood. Paddles may be metal-bound (optional). Paddles must not be more than 15 inches in length for junior court; 17 inches in length for senior court.
2. Paddle tennis net.
3. Official Ball—light sponge rubber approximately 2½ inches in diameter.

Questions and Answers

Question: Why was the one service rule adopted?

Answer: To prevent domination of the game by the server, as frequently occurs in tennis. The size of the paddle tennis court made it especially necessary to curtail the great advantage the server had when permitted a fault. However, the rules committee has adopted the one service rule for senior players only. Children fifteen years of age and under are permitted two serves. The Association was guided in this mainly by the fact that paddle tennis is employed by many playground directors in teaching children the rudiments of lawn tennis.

Inquiries dealing with the interpretation of rules and similar matters should be addressed to Murray Geller, United States Paddle Tennis Association, Madison Square Boys' Club, 301 East 29th Street, New York City.

Question: Why Junior and Senior courts?

Answer: The original paddle tennis dimensions were arbitrarily arrived at by halving the dimensions of a regulation lawn tennis court. There are thousands of these junior courts throughout the country. While these courts are ideal for young children, older boys and men (women, too) feel constricted. The additional five feet in length of the senior court encourages hard driving and brings into play the high lob, which is a very effective shot when skillfully executed. Adult players universally agree that the 44' court has made the game much more enjoyable and attractive to the lawn tennis player. Of course, where limited space does not permit the construction of a senior court with the necessary back space, it is entirely proper to use the junior court for all age groups.

Question: Are paddle tennis court dimensions and rules changed every year?

Answer: Decidedly no. No change whatsoever has been made in the junior game since it was originated by Frank Peer Beal twenty years ago. The national rules committee believes that the senior game is now standardized in its best form, and expects to make no changes.

Question: Who are members of the rules committee?

Answer: Cecil C. Agate, Henry Hall Bassford, Frank Peer Beal, Murray Geller, Helen Hull Jacobs, Frederick L. Pond, and Robert E. Riggs.

Question: Aside from the one service rule for seniors, is paddle tennis played and scored exactly like lawn tennis?

Answer: Exactly.

Question: I have seen many paddle tennis courts that were 39' x 18' with no doubles alleys; that is, the service boxes were 9 feet wide. Are these dimensions official?

Answer: No. They are not official and never were. Many courts have been so constructed because of a typographical error in early "official" paddle tennis rules that were inadvertently circulated by a manufacturer of equipment.

Question: Does the United States Paddle Tennis Association sell or manufacture paddle tennis equipment?

Answer: Emphatically no! The membership of the U. S. P. T. A. is made up of recreation

leaders and paddle tennis enthusiasts from all parts of the United States, and it is not connected with any commercial enterprise. The Association is solely concerned with extending the popularity of paddle tennis, standardizing the dimensions and rules of play, organizing and conducting local and national tournaments, and doing all it can to develop the recreational features of the game.

Question: May the overhand service be used?

Answer: Of course. Some local tournament officials have erroneously compelled players to serve underhand. Players may serve as they please. It is very important however, that the footfault rule (the same as in tennis) be rigidly observed.

Question: What is Platform Paddle Tennis and how does it differ from regulation playground paddle tennis?

Answer: Platform paddle tennis, a variation of the playground game, was devised by F. S. Blanchard and his Scarsdale, New York, neighbor, James K. Cogswell. The game requires a rather expensive wooden platform 60' x 30', costing about \$700 for each court, surrounded by a one inch mesh wire fence 12' high. The ball may be taken off the back and side wiring, as in squash, provided it has first struck inside the proper court. This feature of the game makes for much excitement and prolonged rallies. The net is 2' 10" at center and 3' 1" at posts. Since the court dimensions of the platform game and the senior playground game are identical, some confusion has resulted on the part of architects and designers of playground facilities. The platform game requires back space of only 8 feet, as the ball can be played off the back wiring. In the playground game, which is played like lawn tennis, at least 13 feet are required behind the baselines. Insufficient back space spoils the game. Platform paddle tennis has found great favor, particularly with the "station wagon set" in suburban New York and Connecticut. The game is becoming increasingly popular. Platforms are being constantly improved; the tension of the wire can be regulated to provide accurate bounces off the backstops. A new method of "sanding" the platforms as they are being painted makes it possible to play even during the rain without slipping. I've seen rabid paddle tennis enthusi-

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WORLD AT PLAY

Individual Sports for Defense

INDIVIDUAL sports as an important aid in defense for America were stressed at the civilian defense exercises held at the Mall in Central Park, New York City, on November 14, 1941. Talks and exhibitions by champions and sports leaders made up the program. Miss Alice Marble, tennis champion, opened the exhibition with a demonstration of tennis practice against the walls of the music stand. This was followed by exhibitions of bicycle riding, table tennis, and badminton, and by talks on the value of sports in keeping fit. After the demonstrations and talks Mayor La Guardia led a hiking parade to 59th Street. At the end of the parade came the cyclists headed by a trick bicycle rider. Many well known cyclists were present.

Equipment in Spite of Lack of Money!

"WE HAD NO money for play equipment so we made it!" Thus writes Josephine Pinson, who tells of her experience in Breckenridge, Texas, where she taught last year. Bows, arrows, ping-pong and badminton paddles, and tables were all made by the girls under Miss Pinson's directions. But the really big idea came when the girls wanted to play field hockey but no funds for equipment were forthcoming. Twenty-two plow handles were bought for twenty-five cents each, and boys in the school workshop turned them and shaved them down. The girls then varnished them and the resulting hockey sticks were highly successful both from the point of view of appearance and utility.

They Make Their Own Safety Calendars

UNDER the sponsorship of the Louisville, Kentucky, Safety Council, according to *Safety Education*, the students in the public schools of Louisville have written, illustrated, and published their own safety calendar. The pages, measuring approximately $7\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ inches, are appropriately illustrated and contain a calendar for each month and a safety lesson in verse. The publication is the work of junior and senior high school students, under the guidance of the supervisor of health and safety education and the supervisor of art.

County Playgrounds Enjoy Badminton

BADMINTON was very successfully promoted on the playgrounds maintained by the Union County, New Jersey, Park Commission by using rubber sponges and outdoor feathers as substitutes for the regulation shuttlecocks, and wooden paddles instead of rackets.

Conservation Week in California

CALIFORNIA observes Conservation Week each spring. The week, which was established in 1935, is sponsored by the California Conservation Council and included in it is California's Bird and Arbor Day. The week also marks Luther Burbank's birthday. In its celebration of the week the Department of Recreation of the County of Los Angeles urged that suitable poster material be given prominence at the playground and recreation centers and that contests be held featuring the names of the state's flower, insect, bird, and animal.

Summer Picnic Pays for Winter Party

RETURNS from a picnic in the middle of July are used to pay for the annual Christmas party for children given by the Wilson Avenue Community Association of Chicago. Members of the twenty one year old association went to Des Plaines for their Christmas picnic last year.

They Work as Hard as They Play!

"CHICAGO's public and parochial school children didn't all go out to play after school hours last year. Witness these statistics released by the Chicago Association of Commerce on the results of its clean-up, paint-up, light-up campaign. The children tidied up 19,761 alleys and streets, 199,558 basements, attics, and storerooms, 9,273 vacant lots, and 15,104 backyards. In completing 443,134 clean-up chores, they burned 72,087 rubbish piles, scoured 228 street signs, and bought 9,044 garbage cans. As a reward for their work, the association presented five trophy cups, 114 community service plaques, 121 certificates of merit, and two art school scholarships." — From *Chicago Tribune*, January 30, 1941.

Here's the
New
DIAMOND



Super Ringer

It's the finest pitching horseshoe ever made! Aluminum and bronze. A beautiful shoe with accurate balance drop forged from special analysis, heat-treated steel. Already the outstanding favorite of professionals and amateurs who know the value of a good tournament shoe. Write for complete information and new catalog No. P. S. 3.

DIAMOND CALK HORSESHOE CO.

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DULUTH, MINN.

A Hiker at Eighty-five Years of Age—James H. Hocking of Teaneck, New Jersey, on October 15, 1941, was 85 years of age. Between the hours of 5 A. M. and 5 P. M. to celebrate his birthday he walked fifty-five miles from his home in Teaneck to Bear Mountain, New York. On his 70th birthday he had walked seventy-two miles. When he was 72 years old he walked one hundred forty miles in 29 hours 30 minutes. Several years ago Mr. Hocking with Dan Beard accompanied Dr. John H. Finley on one of his birthday hikes around New York City. Leaving the Hall each had a pedometer. At the end of the trip Mr. Hocking registered $31\frac{1}{4}$, Dan Beard $30\frac{3}{4}$ and Dr. John H. Finley 31. The trio were seven hours and twenty-five minutes in making the trip around New York. All finished in fine shape.

Mr. Hocking writes: "At 85 I am feeling fine. I often wonder when this old age bug will get hold of me. I am looking forward, never backward, to my 90th. It seems to me I will be going just as good as on my 85th."

Christmas Toys for Wilson's Children—Approximately 2,400 toys, some new and some old, were collected for underprivileged children of Wil-

son, North Carolina, in two drives. At a special matinee of the local moving picture theater a toy, old or new, was the price of admission. In this way about 500 toys were collected. In the second drive the Junior Chamber of Commerce toured the town in automobiles to collect toys from local residents, some of whom donated money with which to buy new toys. The toys were turned over to the Department of Recreation where they were repaired and given to the children at Christmas parties.

Landscape Gardening Classes Popular—

More than five hundred women and a few men in a dozen communities in King County, Washington, are learning the fine points of landscape gardening through instruction provided by WPA. Subjects of instruction cover whatever gardening activity is of special interest at the time the classes meet. Among these subjects are soil chemistry and preparation, planting, care of flowers and shrubs, rock gardens, and pool construction. Instruction is on an informal basis. Classes usually start out with a talk on a particularly pertinent topic and then the instructor opens the meeting with questions relative to any phase of garden procedure. Most of the enrollees are home owners and gardeners interested in learning how to improve their homes and select the most desirable plants for beautifying their yards.

Cincinnati's Airport Recreation Field—A report issued by the Public Recreation Commission of Cincinnati, Ohio, states: "The new Airport Recreation Field of 200 acres in operation for the second year paid all expenses of maintenance and supervision and held first place as the center of recreational activity in contrast with all other municipal recreation facilities. The twenty different activities provided drew heavy attendance every day in the week and during both daylight and evening hours."

Regarding Junior Park Naturalists—The National Park Service announces that the position of junior park naturalist in the national parks will no longer be filled by certification from Civil Service registers but by selection from junior professional assistant registers. Anyone interested in making application for a junior professional assistant examination should write to the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., requesting that his name be placed on the Commission's

mailing list to receive announcements and application form.

"It is important and vitally necessary," states the announcement, "that eligibles selected for such positions in the National Park Service be interested in the interpretation of the natural sciences as distinguished from the purely scientific research aspects."

Child Labor Day—Child Labor Day, to be celebrated January 24, 25, and 26, 1942, will afford opportunity to focus attention on the large groups of child workers in industrialized agriculture. In practically every state agricultural work is exempt from child labor regulations, and federal legislation against child labor in industrialized agriculture is a matter of immediate necessity. Further information may be secured from the National Child Labor Committee, 419 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

Skating—Skating, along with bicycling and skiing, has become a major individual sport. The 1939 census of manufacturers shows that the total value of roller and ice skates in 1939 was \$5,411,479, an increase over 1937 of 16.8 per cent. While roller skating leads three to one over ice skating, more theaters and hotels feature the ice sport. Roller skating has taken a strong hold on teen-age boys and girls, while ice skating appeals to both youngsters and adults.

A related sport to skating is skate sailing. This can be practiced only on a large lake free from crowds. The Skate Sailing Association of America sponsors this sport.

The New Haven Railroad has conducted skate trains to Hatch Lake in the Berkshires. In this way more than five hundred people have been able to enjoy a Saturday out on the open lakes amid the scenic hills of the Berkshires. Music is played for dancing and racing. The train waits on the siding so that cold and hungry skaters may board it at any time. Several trains are scheduled for the winter of 1942.

Negro History Week—Negro History Week, sponsored by the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, will be observed during the week beginning February 8th. This will be the fifteenth celebration. For twenty-five years the Association has published *The Journal of Negro History*, which appears during nine months of the year. In 1937 the Association began the publica-

Good Morning

The distinctive dance manual that has been sweeping the country with great popularity, has been supplemented by our latest release of four new records, December 1, 1941. We now have fourteen **EARLY AMERICAN DANCE RECORDS** to choose from, recorded by Henry Ford's old-time dance orchestra. These records are excellent for Clubs, Schools, Service Centers and Recreation Halls.

These dances are taken directly from the "Good Morning" book and chosen for their rhythm, simplicity, and popularity—with a variety of quadrilles, circles, and couple dances, including a number of singing calls.

Please fill out the following blank for a catalog listing of these records:

HENRY FORD
Dept. R—Box 100
Dearborn, Michigan

Please send me a copy of your catalog listing
EARLY AMERICAN DANCE RECORDS.

Name

Street Address

City..... State

tion of another magazine, *The Negro History Bulletin* which is designed to popularize the study of the Negro in the public school. Further information may be secured from the headquarters of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, 1538 Ninth Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. Carter G. Woodson is director of the Association.

National Indoor Paddle Tennis Tournaments Announced—The National Indoor Paddle Tennis Open Championship Tournaments for Men and Women will be conducted by the United States Paddle Tennis Association in cooperation with the New York City Department of Parks at Cromwell Center, Staten Island, New York City, beginning February 26, 1942. Entries close February 15th. For entry blanks write to the United States Paddle Tennis Association, Madison Square Boys' Club, 301 East 29th Street, New York City.

Park City's Memorial Community Recreation Center—Park City, Utah, has a memorial community recreation center costing \$127,000

which is outstanding in the Intermountain District. The American Legion, which took the lead in campaigning for the center, interested the county supervisors in the project. A one mill levy for the center was voted, and the center was put through as a PWA project. It is estimated that it will be partly self-maintaining, the rest of the money needed to be paid out of county tax funds from the one mill levy. The plan of operation involves family memberships of \$5.00 a year and individual memberships at \$3.00. At the end of the first month there were 283 memberships involving 500 individuals. There is a charge of ten cents for bowling, and a small charge is made to civic groups for the use of the kitchen. There are separate gymnasium classes for younger boys and girls, older boys and girls, a one o'clock class for married women, a late afternoon class for employed women, and a men's group in the evening. Plans are under way for an orchestra and a singing group. Among other events scheduled are community dances.

"New Leaf Club" in Chicago—Two neighborhood boys broke into a young shoemaker's shop in Chicago last December. Instead of arresting them, the shoemaker realized the wisdom of providing these boys and others like them with absorbing interests to keep them from delinquency. He installed a ping-pong table and a small pool table in his basement and invited the neighborhood boys to come in and use them. Soon the sponsor and his wife were playing games with the boys, helping them with schoolwork, and aiding them in many constructive and practical ways. Now the fifteen boys, ranging in age from thirteen to fifteen, who meet in the basement of the shoemaker's shop have organized into a club, which they call "New Leaf Club." Plans are underway to secure qualified leadership and additional equipment for the playroom from the South End Recreation Committee of the city.

"Plays"—A Drama Magazine for Young People has appeared under the title *Plays*. It will be published monthly from September to June at \$3.00 a year; 30 cents a copy. The September number, the first issue, contains

Sidney A. Teller Retires

SIDNEY A. TELLER, Director of the Irene Kaufmann Settlement in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is retiring after twenty-seven years of service in Pittsburgh.

During all this period, he has delivered a great many speeches as a volunteer worker for the National Recreation Association. He served as Director of Playgrounds at Butler, Missouri, and as director of a boys' club in Chicago. For six years he served as director of one of the community tax-supported parks in Chicago.

Sidney Teller has always cared deeply for people, has thought in terms of a well-rounded life for each individual, has given himself without stint to public service and particularly to the recreation movement.

sixteen plays and radio scripts on a variety of subjects—Columbus Day, the dedication of the Statue of Liberty, the Junior Red Cross, and others. Some of the plays stress the principle of good citizenship; some are designed for sheer entertainment. Future issues will contain plays suitable for commemorating civic, communal, and national holidays. The magazine is published by Plays, Inc., at 8 Arlington Street, Boston.

The Berkeley Festival—The Berkeley, California, Festival, which opened on May 4 and continued to June 8, 1941, dedicated its first event, the production of "Elijah" by Mendelssohn, to the memory of Phoebe Apperson Hearst. Other events in the series, which this year celebrated Berkeley's seventy-fifth birthday, were: San Francisco Opera Ballet; "Orpheus in the Underworld," Offenbach; San Francisco Symphony Orchestra; "Saint Joan," George Bernard Shaw; and "Twelfth Night," Shakespeare. Charles W. Davis, Director of Recreation in Berkeley, served as chairman of the Berkeley Recreation Department Committee and as a member of the Public Schools Committee. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Berkeley Festival Association.

Trails—The New England Trail Conference has published a new map covering important hiking trails and carrying information as to the or-

ganization, maintaining the trail, and obtaining guide books. They also have the 1937 edition of "Hiking and Bridle Trails in New England." Distributed free, postage appreciated. W. R. Hamlin, 60 Fearing Street, Amherst, Massachusetts.

Miniature Railroads a Growing Hobby—According to *The New York Times* of June 22, 1941, there are about 1,800 miles of railroad track-age in this country which will be of no use at all in the defense program except that it "carries a load off people's minds." This track is owned and operated by miniature-railroad hobbyists who numbered, according to a recent estimate, more than 100,000. Their combined systems would reach from New York to San Antonio, Texas, and they estimate that they have invested \$10,000,000 in their equipment.

Making Art a Family Affair—Art has become a family affair at the Abraham Lincoln High School in Brooklyn where the parents are studying along with their children. None of these mothers and fathers are professionals; they paint only because they love it. The school's Parent Teacher Association recently gave an exhibit of paintings, many of them by the parents. Among exhibitors was a photoengraver who does water color landscapes in his spare time, a mother who is a draper in a wholesale dress house and hopes to become a fashion designer, and a portrait-painting optometrist whose daughter is a musician.

Hotel Naturalists—The Treadway System of Hotels services guests with a nature program as well as golf. Maurice Broun has been naturalist at the Long Trail Lodge, Rutland, Vermont, for four seasons. His bog garden has 400 plants. He leads walks and talks, and his nature trail is an outdoor museum. And the service pays dividends!

A Junior Baseball School—A popular activity in Dearborn, Michigan, was the Junior Baseball School sponsored by the Recreation Department. Sessions were held each Wednesday through July and August from 8:30 until noon, with members of the Detroit Tigers, former league stars, local baseball players, and playground supervisors contributing their services. Boys were taught not only how to play the various positions but how to take care of equipment, how to avoid injuries, and how to treat minor accidents. There were three classes: for boys under thirteen; for boys under fifteen; and for boys up to seventeen.

Do You Bind Your File of Recreation?

THE National Recreation Association has received many inquiries regarding binders for a year's file of RECREATION. Information has accordingly been secured on types of binders and prices.

One type which should be practical and attractive is especially sturdy, being made of leatherette. Each of the twelve issues of the magazine is held in place by a thin rod which fits in the back of the binder. The cover would be of blue leatherette, the shade of blue of the cover on RECREATION, and across the top would appear a replica of the upper part of the magazine. Thus the word "Recreation" would appear across the top of the cover with bands above and below the lettering.

If one hundred people indicate they would like to have this binder, it will be possible to have copies made for \$1.50. Because of the shortage of material, however, it will be necessary to act quickly. If you are interested kindly send word to the

NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION

315 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

In-Service Fellowships in Public Administration—The University of Minnesota announces a limited number of in-service fellowships in public administration for the academic year 1942-1943. The period of training will extend through the fall, winter, and spring quarters and in the first term of the summer session. The fellowships, which are open to citizens of the United States not over thirty-five years of age who are graduates of recognized universities and colleges, carry stipends varying in amount from \$1,000 to \$1,500 a year. Applications for the fellowships for the academic year 1942-1943 must be submitted not later than April 1, 1942. Requests for information should be addressed to the Secretary of the Committee on Training for Public Administration, 13 University Library, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Box Hockey for Women—Izola Jensen, Extension Specialist in Community Social Organization, Extension Service, Oregon State College, writes that at one of their summer camps they installed a large size box hockey game about three by eight feet. Rather than use the hockey sticks

which are difficult to secure in Oregon, old golf clubs (drivers) were substituted, and old golf balls used as puck. The game was popular with both men and women at the camp.

Fathers Play Ball in Painesville—Stanley Prague, who is in charge of recreation in Painesville, Ohio, writes that the organization of a father-and-son softball game at every city playground has proved a successful activity. Men from all walks of life play in the games and astonish their sons by their ability. A regularly scheduled Duffers' League has been playing in City Recreation Park once a week.

Yorkville Entertains the Service Men—Had you been in the vicinity of 70th Street and Second Avenue in New York City one evening last fall, you might have been surprised to hear the streets echo with sounds of laughter and gay voices and to see 8,000 men, women and children packing the streets, peering from the windows, and crowding the fire escapes and roof-tops. All of Yorkville, New York City's German section, had turned out to give a warm welcome to 200 men in uniform who had been invited to come and join in a block party given in their honor under the auspices of the Yorkville Recreation Committee for Service Men. Girls from local settlements and nationality groups served as hostesses at the affair. First on the program was a turkey dinner at which gift packages of cigarettes, shaving cream, and handkerchiefs were presented to each service man. After dinner, hostesses and guests entered wholeheartedly into an informal evening of folk dancing in the neighboring streets and were cheered on by thousands of spectators. The dancing was led by a picturesque group of Bavarian mountaineers, the men in black leather shorts, and the women in white aprons and flowing print dresses. Later in the evening, the party enjoyed entertainment furnished by a Czechoslovakian dancing group.

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

(Continued from page 626)

of the Long Trail in Vermont by famous writers. A literary effort as well as authentic fact. Includes 100 illustrations, geological and botanical aspects, and stories.

Trees. "Forests and Trees of the Western National Parks," Harold and Virginia Bailey. Super-

intendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. 139 pp. 25 cents.

"Utah." A Guide to the State. Writers Program, Utah WPA. Published by Hastings House. 595 pp. \$2.50. Recreation facilities of a state with an individuality. Maps and photographs for both the front and back-seat driver.

Wild Flowers. Congress proposes thirty-odd dams for Missouri streams. According to Dr. Julian A. Steyermark, the Field Museum of Natural History, this will destroy several rare species of plant and animal life. He considers the Ozarks as a survival center of the most ancient life in America. He produces scientific evidence revealing the destructive effects of dams which would wipe out survivors pushing south of the Missouri River to escape the ice invasion. Franklania which was named for Benjamin Franklin once grew near the Altamaha River in Georgia. It was exterminated. It is to be hoped that Dr. Steyermark will be supported in his effort to protect these rare plants and unusual species of cave animals.

The National Recreation Association and Defense Recreation

(Continued from page 619)

23. Answered inquiries from many individuals and community agencies serving men in uniform on leave furnishing information and literature relative to entertainment and other recreation programs.
24. Helped in maintaining normal recreation services for children, young men, young women and the entire population in the cities and rural areas of the United States during these trying times.

What They Say

From *Paul McNutt*, the Federal Security Administrator:

DEAR MR. RIVERS:

I have just had an opportunity to read the report of your work in recruiting recreation personnel for this Agency, and want to take this occasion to express my deep appreciation for the fine service which you have rendered.

The counsel and advice of one of your wide experience has enabled us to move rapidly in the selection of recreation personnel to meet an emergency situation. We are greatly indebted to the National Recreation Association for making your services available to us, and to you for your untiring efforts.

From *Charles P. Taft*, Assistant Coordinator, Federal Security Agency:

DEAR MR. BRAUCHER:

In connection with our program for the organization of leisure time activities in the communities outside of

the camps, we have leaned heavily on your association both for personnel for our own staff and for advice as to the selection of personnel. Most of the program in these communities will be conducted by the United Service Organizations and part, as much as we can stimulate, by local public recreation commissions. We are counting on you for help in training the latter.

It is a most important assistance that you are giving us in the national defense program. I am more than glad to endorse your appeal for funds of the National Recreation Association.

From *Mark A. McCloskey*, Director of Recreation, Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services, F.S.A.:

DEAR HOWARD BRAUCHER:

I am moved at this season to write you my personal thanks for the help I have received from you and the National Recreation Association in these past months.

In my post, in ordinary times, as Director of Recreation of the Board of Education I felt the moral and professional backing of you personally and the Association.

As Director of Recreation for the Federal Security Agency in these extraordinary times I have had it even more. As a matter of course I drew, and still draw, without question upon your own veteran judgment and the resources of the Association. Help in the form of advice, personnel and information has been given without stint and without an eye on any other concern than the task immediately before us, and the advancement of what I deeply believe is daily increasing in importance—recreation in the life of the American people.

Paddle Tennis Grows Up

(Continued from page 630)

asts brush the snow from the court and continue their game after a sudden snowfall. There is no stopping a paddle tennis fanatic! The platform players have their own flourishing organization, the American Paddle Tennis Association (more properly The American Platform Paddle Tennis Association). Mr. Kenneth Ward of the Manursing Island Club, Rye, New York, is president. While platform paddle tennis is a fine game which will continue to grow in popularity, it is essentially better suited to private and country club than for playground use.

Question: Can paddle tennis be played on any flat surface?

Answer: Yes. Paddle tennis can be played outdoors or indoors, on cement, asphalt, composition, clay, wood, or grass.

PLAY PADDLE TENNIS

AMERICA'S FASTEST GROWING SPORT

The Senior court, 44' x 20', has made the game attractive to the expert lawn tennis player as well as to the beginner.

Paddle Tennis can be played all-year-round on any flat surface. Complete equipment for game can be had for less than the price of a good tennis racquet.

For price list of nets, paddles and balls, write to

THE PADDLE TENNIS CO., INC.

277 Fifth Avenue, New York City

Manufacturers and Distributors of Official Paddle Tennis Equipment

Hit the Nature Trail

(Continued from page 624)

In addition, there are in every community large numbers of nature hobbyists who spurn club affiliations, preferring to pursue their interests either alone or with one or two companions at the most.

The democratic spirit of recreation out under the open sky is testified to by one enthusiast who recalls: "What week ends my family and I have enjoyed out in the country blanketed with snow, where trails lead one off into pine woods filled with invigorating air and where one is free from the rush and turmoil of cities. As time goes on, we seem to appreciate more and more the great outdoors which was given us all to use and enjoy."

Hobby Windows

(Continued from page 608)

strings, hooked rugs, quilts, etchings, steel engravings, Currier and Ives, Lady Godeys. A patriotic window showed flags of all nations. Twenty-four pieces of handmade John Deere machinery pictured rural life.

Now the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph Company display windows are football windows which have become a famous and traditional feature of Cornhusker pigskin seasons. Cornhusker football heroes of other years; Nebraska's first team in 1890; pictures of every Nebraska team since 1900 down to the Rose Bowl pictures bring back glorious memories of Nebraska gridiron deeds, all the hobby of Mr. Ott, the company's advertising manager. One hobby window, carrying out the football theme, contains thirty-six football programs dating from 1929 to the present time. Due credit is given to Mr. J. H. Hartley, commercial artist, whose splendid lettering of the names makes every owner feel a thrill of pride.

Service to the Church Through Leadership Training

(Continued from page 615)

Additional Suggestions

Young married couples working on young people's committees in the church should be encouraged to participate in an institute of this kind. Many church young people's committees are at a loss as to what to do when planning entertainment for a young people's meeting.

It is important that the members of the institute have an opportunity to assist with the planning and directing of the institute program. This can be arranged through the appointment of special committees along the plan outlined in this paper.

References and source material should be furnished in abundance with each program. The source material should be on hand at the local library.

Anticipated Evolution of This Program

The Indianapolis institute has been confined largely to church participation so that a closely knit organization could be developed. There is an opportunity for considerable expansion when all social organizations are invited to participate in the institute.

It is hoped that it will be the desire of the churches to use some of their leaders who have received training in the institute to promote special social occasions in the church for soldiers and sailors in the local camps.

Another plan which has not yet been organized is to arrange "recreation crews" of leaders who have taken the institute training course to run local parties for churches and social service organizations that do not have an opportunity to take advantage of the institute.

Treasures Everywhere!

(Continued from page 611)

have no monopoly on human interest. Nevertheless, old people seem to be naturally more communicative. Exceptions there are among younger groups, many of them. Yet many middle-aged people have a bad habit of being preoccupied with their affairs, and this is certain death to that genial mood of reflection.

So, if you are wearied by the blaring exaggerations of the radio and annoyed by the contradictory newscasts, if bridge has gone stale for the moment and that dinner party seems flat and unappealing, you still need not surrender to enslavement by boredom and despair. These tyrannies — I would

like to call them poverties! — of modern life can be escaped.

At this very moment a lonely figure may be slowly walking through the silent park, staring emptily, seeing everything yet seeing nothing. On the corner by the bank there may be standing at this very instant that old man whom the world of today is passing by.

Then there is that old neighbor who seldom has a visitor any more, and who lives alone and in silence while the days slowly pass and the shadows darken. He would be surprised and delighted to have a caller.

Why not put on your hat and take a look for some of this too often unsought and unprized treasure? It's not only a good but a perfectly legitimate excuse for breaking—or to keep from making!—that engagement you have been dreading. And strangely, as you hear of the struggles and hardships of an earlier generation, you will begin to wonder, as I have many times, whether life in 1941 was as difficult and unbearable as you had previously thought.

Noticing the old folks occasionally is not only performing a fundamental humanitarian duty, it is an excursion into a land of surprise and adventure. It is that for yourself. It is that, also, for the individuals who are gladdened by your attention and interest.

And that is not all. Many of the older people are remarkably good storytellers—with some remarkably good stories to tell!

Recreation in a State Hospital

(Continued from page 612)

possession of presents from Santa, we joined in singing "Jingle Bells."

May Day is held each year on the lawn with a May Queen and her attendants, heralds, and a court of honor. In this celebration all unite in song and dance, making a festive picture. This, with the traditional Maypole, colorful costumes, and lively rhythms, always proves a gala affair enjoyed by approximately 1,200 people in the institution, their relatives, the staff, and invited guests. Before the event contests and races are held, and the presentation of awards for winners is made on the afternoon of May Day by Dr. Robert G. Stone, medical director, and two members of the board of managers. The American Legion drum and bugle corps of Trenton, which gives a program lasting fifteen minutes, is always introduced by our Commissioner of Institutions and Agencies, Honorable William J. Ellis.

A Sound Program of Community Recreation

BOTH EXPERIENCE and research have shown the values inherent in recreation not only as a checkmate for delinquency and crime, as a positive aid to physical and mental health, as a source of intrinsic enjoyment through self-expression, achievement and social intercourse, but also as a community builder.

It is largely through their social and recreational contacts that youth and adults become more closely identified with the community—as a matter of fact, with every group, outside the home. This *identification* is the fundamental element in community spirit.

Recreation conceived in this light, is thus a civic responsibility, meriting the best talents and resources each citizen can give. It is a means of developing the group loyalty and the esprit de corps which is the essential quality in good citizenship.

To develop these objectives through a civic plan of recreation necessitates the effective, persistent, and orderly development of the five P's—Purposing, Planning, Preparing, Publicizing, and Projecting the Program. The following acrostic is intended only to suggest a few planks in the civic recreation platform. This is but a starter to help you in thinking through your own outline. Carry on!

- A sound program of community recreation —
- Requires adequate facilities — community hall, library, and playground.
- Exacts excellent leadership and organization.
- Creates attitudes of tolerance, understanding and cooperation.
- Relaxes the individual yet invigorates him—mentally and physically.
- Educates participants through new ideas, inspirations, and skills.
- Aims at developing well-rounded personalities.
- Takes people away from their daily routines.
- Includes everyone of both sexes—young and old, rich and poor.
- Offers an opportunity to make new friends and to cultivate old ones.
- Needs the joint support of all individuals and groups.—From *Dr. R. W. Kerns*, Extension Rural Sociologist, Pennsylvania State College.

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of
Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

- Children's Institutions*, November 1941
 - "Suggested Cottage Activities" by C. A. Lindsey. A program for an institution cottage
 - "The Education and Recreation of Mentally Retarded Children" by Jane Hutchinson
- Journal of Health and Physical Education*, November 1941
 - "The Techniques of Publicity" by Bertha M. Keller and Zoe A. Battu
 - "Esthetic Education Through the Dance" by Joyce Michell
 - "Opportunities for Guidance in the WRA" by Mildred Adams Lucey. College women's activities
 - "Recreation in the CCC Camps" by Stanley J. Stann
 - "An Outdoor Water Carnival" by Betty Carlson and Alex Saudargas
- The Nation's Schools*, December 1941
 - "When It's Time to Play" by Eldon I. Jenne. Play facilities for young children
- Parks and Recreation*, December 1941
 - "Education and Training for Park Personnel" by Roberts Mann
- Pennsylvania Journal of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation*, October 1941
 - "Off the Post Recreation for Soldiers" by Thomas W. Lantz
- Scholastic Coach*, December 1941
 - "Badminton Fundamentals" by Hugh Forgie

PAMPHLETS

- Administrative Manual*
Department of Playground and Recreation, City of Los Angeles, price \$1.00
- Community Organization for Recreation*. Report of a Chicago WPA recreation project
Chicago Recreation Commission.
- Guidance for Rural Youth*
The American Youth Commission, Washington, price \$.05
- Inter-American Friendship Through the Schools*. Bulletin 1941, No. 10. U. S. Office of Education
Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., price \$.15
- School and College Civilian Morale Service*
U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.
- A Study of Recreational Opportunities for Negroes in Providence, R. I.*, June 1941
Council of Social Agencies, Providence, R. I.

ANNUAL REPORTS

- Recreation Commission, City and County of Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii; Department of Recreation, Los Angeles, Calif.; Bureau of Recreation, Scranton, Pa.; Department of Recreation, Superior, Wis.; Parks and Recreation Commission, Worcester, Mass.

Teen-Age Fun in Conservation Camps

(Continued from page 617)

and other recreational features. Part of the afternoon is also used for field trips, handcraft, and preparation for the evening program. A picnic dinner is provided for the noon hour and a wiener fry, with left-overs from noon, makes the evening meal. After supper, the sunset service, the most impressive meeting of the day, is held just as the sun is setting. A bonfire is built, and there are songs, stunts, and stories in the glow of the evening fire. The day closes with the candle service and the singing of taps at perhaps 10:00 P. M."

The report goes on to state that no less than twenty one-day camps were held in that state the year before, and fifty-eight centers participated in some sort of camp program.

These conservation camps have also been an important phase of 4-H work in Pennsylvania, North Dakota, Illinois, Nebraska, and South Dakota. The recreational features stir up enthusiasm and inspiration for the real work of conservation at which these get-together affairs are aimed. The boys love to swap experiences about their projects, while the county agents and 4-H leaders present indulge in a little justifiable bragging on the outstanding jobs some of their boys have done.

In South Dakota, for instance, one boy received special recognition for the way he saved a deserted quail nest. He had seen the dogs chase the bird off her nest. She never came back, so he took the twenty-eight eggs home, set them under a chicken hen, and hatched twenty-four. In a few weeks they were jumping the fence, and he finally let them go to take care of themselves. They grew up on his father's farm. He protected them against starvation when snow was on the ground, closed the land to hunting, and soon had the biggest game bird population that had ever been seen on his farm.

When a boy hears of exploits like this at meetings, he goes home and throws himself with new enthusiasm into his work. Under such inspiration we now have a great deal of game that otherwise might not have been preserved or might not have existed at all. The movement is developing a new conservation phase by encouraging boys, trees, and birds to grow up together.

These young people are saving thousands of

Open House in Westchester County

ON OCTOBER 20, 1941, the Westchester County, New York, Recreation Commission held its third annual "open house" to show the residents of the county what the Commission is offering them. "We hope," states the publicity material issued, "that in the demonstrations of athletics, dancing, music and camping, in the 'living' exhibits of art, crafts, and in the many organizations affiliated with us, you will find an activity that will bring greater satisfaction to your leisure hours."

Since arts and crafts had been emphasized in the previous open house, this year the athletic program was stressed. Six sports were presented in a demonstration of football and basketball formations by the members of the White Plains High School teams, in a golf demonstration, and badminton and table tennis matches. Various types of gymnastics were presented by the Springfield, Massachusetts, College team in gymnastics.

Various forms of music and dancing conducted by the Commission were presented. Members of the Westchester Negro Choral Union sang two Negro folk songs, and a hillbilly band composed of five young people from Mamaroneck presented the type of musical activity encouraged by the Commission's summer program. The extensive arts and crafts program sponsored by the Commission was presented in a series of living exhibits surrounding the floor of the County Center's main auditorium. A number of booths were given over to the Children's Workshop, junior partner of the Westchester County Workshop, which convenes every Saturday morning. The Westchester Arts and Crafts Guild exhibited paintings and sculpture by some of its three hundred members, and the Westchester Trails Association showed pictures and maps of the many hikes conducted through the county and neighboring territory. The Westchester Drama Association, affiliated with the Commission, was represented by a complete stage set from a play recently produced by one of its member groups.

acres of eroded land by stopping washes with vines, bushes, and other game cover, and at the same time they are giving the birds a decent break.

A Recreation Center for Pueblo, Colorado

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gram lines, so that no commercial recreation may ever take place there. They hope thus to establish in the Fulton Heights center—and in any other similar buildings that may be constructed in Pueblo in the future—a program basis that will prove the real value of non-commercial forms of recreation.

They're Playing Basketball in New York City!

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teammate at foul line, who in turn shoots the ball. Should he miss, the ball reverts back to No. 2 of the A team. The game continues until ten points are scored by either team, when the No. 1 and No. 2 players reverse their positions thereby giving each man a chance to shoot from both under the basket and the foul line. The twenty-first point must be made from fifteen feet behind the foul line, and both players of the winning team must shoot from the 30-foot line to achieve the winning point of the game.

Twenty-One (Variation). When the No. 1 player is successful with his toss from the foul line, his partner then shoots from underneath the basket. If he is successful, he in turn throws the ball to his partner at foul line. The remainder of game is the same as in the original. This variation leads to a sense of cooperation and spirit as one partner is dependent upon the other for another chance to shoot the ball.

Around the World. This game can be played with as few as two participants and as many as may wish to play. An area of approximately forty-five feet in circumference is marked out with numbers running consecutively from one to fifteen. Numbers one to twelve should be in the immediate vicinity of the 15-foot foul line. Number thirteen is about fifteen feet behind the foul line, and numbers fourteen and fifteen on the extreme sides of the basket about twenty-five feet on each side. Each player starts from number one and every successful shot moves him nearer number fifteen. Each individual shoots until he misses. He then continues from where he has missed after all other contestants have had their chance. As each player misses, he places himself underneath the basket to retrieve the ball for the shooter. There should be no waste of time between one contestant and the next. The player who is successful at

"The First Basketball Game"

RECREATION WORKERS will be interested to know that Josephine Blackstock, Director of Playgrounds in Oak Park, Illinois, has written a play, "The First Basketball Game," which is based on the book, *Basketball*, by James Naismith. Miss Blackstock has dedicated her play to the Golden Jubilee of Basketball which is being celebrated this year. Groups cooperating in this celebration will find the play exceedingly helpful in their programs. It will, however, because of its subject matter and dramatic appeal, be interesting for presentation by any recreation group. Price, 15¢.

number fifteen first is the winner. He then becomes the first shooter at the next game.

This game is very popular with the girls and the numbers are placed closer to the basket when they are participating. Number fifteen being placed directly behind the 15-foot line.

Hobbies and Happiness in Old Age

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show that women live on an average three years longer than men. May not this be explained at least in a measure by the fact that women do not have to face a crisis period when they must give up their work and hobbies as men so often do? Inability of many men to adjust during the crisis period may contribute to a shortening of life.

The man who has farmed all his life should never retire to a city. If possible, he should live on the farm and turn the management of the farm over to a son or relative. This makes it possible for him to continue in part to direct the farming and thus to maintain interests which have been important to him. Farmers who are able to retire in this fashion do not die for want of something to do.

If a farmer must retire from the open country, he should retire to a small town, but never to the city. In the small town he can raise a garden, keep a cow and chickens, and on a small scale continue the type of life he has always lived. He has also the opportunity to visit with other older people who have been engaged in farming. There is usually a very friendly attitude in a small town so that it is easy to get acquainted. On the other hand, the city is unfriendly, it is difficult to get acquainted, younger people do not have time to bother with the old, and community activities are run by and for young people.

Young people often refer to the home town as being a "dead town"; for the young that may be true. There are no good stores with the latest styles in clothes; the motion picture is open only Saturday night, and there is no public dance. But for the aged person the small town is a lively place. He can engage his favorite hobbies, visit at the general store, go to church on Sunday, and feel that he is worth while in directing the affairs of the community.

In addition to developing interests in activities other than the regular job, development of the social side of life is necessary if one is planning for a good adjustment in the later years of life. The old people who are the happiest today are the ones who visit with friends often and who attend church regularly. It probably is not so much that the going to church makes one better adjusted, but church attendance is apparently an indication of a sociable nature. Those who attend church also visit with friends often, belong to lodges, the ladies' aid, and many other organizations in the community.

Aged people who have hobbies are not as critical of young people and the times as those who are lacking in interests in old age. Those with few interests are critical of the younger generation. Examples of their comments are: "young people are going to the dogs"; "young people are not as polite as we used to be"; and so on. They are also critical of the times: "Things were much better off fifty years ago," or "I wish things were as they were when I was young."

The happy aged more frequently report plans for the future and seem to be looking forward rather than back to the good old days. The unhappy seldom report plans but have reached the place where they have given up hope for the future.

Service Men's Clubs

(Continued from page 605)

the club. The writing room with all its furnishings was given by the Cornelia Cole Fairbanks Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Many families far away have been made happier because letters come more regularly.

Shower and dressing rooms are a great joy to the men, especially to those who are going from place to place between trains and busses. The game room offers all kinds of indoor recreation. Pool, ping-pong, and checkers are among the greatest favorites.

The large social room is always ready for dancing, cards, and chatter. Its comfortable chairs and sofas are covered with slips of bright chintz in the same pattern as the curtains. The work and material were furnished by a woman whose son is in service. Curtains in the office and the "date room" were furnished and made by the mother of another soldier. Here men can visit with women friends and relatives.

The Pantry Shelf is an innovation which ranks high in popularity. "Snacks are served to the men at all times, and on Sunday night there is a supper. The success of this much appreciated service is due to the zeal of the group of volunteers in charge. All the food is donated by Indianapolis citizens.

And it is because of the unflagging interest and hard work of volunteers, as well as the office force, that the Service Club has come to fill so important a place in the lives of the service men. Many committees are functioning. There is the Service Men's Governing Committee made up of men from Fort Harrison, Billings Hospital, and the Naval Armory who serve as liaison agents between the Posts and the club. There are the House Committee, the Cookie Committee which solicits the cookies for the never empty jars, and the Public Relations Committee which through a bulletin, through the radio, and other channels keeps the public informed and interested.

Not the least important of the groups working for the men in uniform is the newly organized Service Men's Cadettes made up of several hundred young women. The Cadettes are divided into four regiments, each with fifteen officers. All members must have completed two hours of training under Captain Conder of Fort Harrison and Mrs. Dorothy Buschmann, director of the club, and twelve hours of work at the club before they are eligible to wear their pins. They must also have been passed on by a special committee. Members of the regiments take turns in serving as hostesses at the club on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays, from four to ten. The doors of the center are open from 8:00 A. M. until 12:00 P. M. every day except Saturday, when the club is open until 1:00 o'clock.

The six months old Service Club in Indianapolis is growing in interest and usefulness and is a monument to the vision, zeal, efficiency, and tireless effort of the people of Indianapolis who are working to make theirs a friendly city for men serving American defense.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

A Program Handbook of Young Men's Activities

Edited by John A. Sessions. Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York. \$1.00.

THOUGH INTENDED for the use of Y.M.C.A. workers, there are many suggestions here, particularly dealing with leisure-time interests, which will be of interest to recreation workers.

Landscape Architecture in the Modern World

By Karl B. Lohmann. The Garrard Press. Champaign, Illinois. \$2.50.

THIS BOOK IS DESIGNED to meet the need in the field of architecture for a publication which deals broadly with the field and at the same time takes into account the changes of our modern life. It seeks to contribute to an appreciation of a more enjoyable environment and to assist in the shaping of the physical surroundings of homes, neighborhoods, and communities. Gardens and fountains are discussed, as well as park systems and water forms such as lakes and swimming pools.

Integrated Handwork for Elementary Schools

Teachers' Guide in Use and Techniques. By Louis V. Newkirk, Ph.D. Silver Burdett Company, New York. \$3.20.

THIS BOOK IS DESIGNED to meet the demand created by the recognition of handwork as an integral part of elementary education. It is clearly pointed out that it is not craftsmanship for its own sake that the schools need but the craftsmanship that serves useful educational purposes. Part One defines handwork, shows its relationship to industrial arts, fine arts, social studies, science, and discusses and illustrates the use of integrated handwork as a teaching procedure, and suggests equipment and proper school facilities. Part Two explains and illustrates methods of doing the more common types of handwork. There are many illustrations and drawings.

Chess Step by Step

By Frank J. Marshall and J. C. H. Macbeth. E. P. Dutton and Company, New York. \$1.50.

THE IMPORTANCE of starting right in chess cannot be overestimated. Here is a sound book dealing with fundamentals which is at the same time simple, clear, authoritative, and thorough. It may be used as a first book for the beginner or as an aid to the player who wishes to reform his play and place it on a correct basis.

Work Camps for College Students

Prepared for the American Youth Commission by Kenneth Holland. American Council on Education, Washington, D. C. \$25.

SINCE 1937 the American Youth Commission has been studying and evaluating types of experience for youth that combine work and education. Included in these studies have been camps of the CCC, resident centers of the NYA, work camps for high school students, and work camps for college students. This pamphlet is based upon a study of a group of work camps for college students maintained during the summers of 1939 and 1940 under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee. The purpose of the study was to discover what values of the work camp movement might be translated into the structure of general education. The conclusion was reached that these camps have many values for general education and as a new technique for the study of social conditions deserve the thoughtful consideration of all educators, but especially of all teachers of social sciences.

A Guide to Community Coordination

Coordinating Councils, Inc., 145 West 12th Street, Los Angeles, California. \$25.

COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD councils are growing in large and small communities. This guide to the organization of community councils and their responsibilities and opportunities deals primarily with the needs and conditions existing in communities under 25,000. It is an exceedingly practical booklet offering a step-by-step procedure for organization. The appendix contains a condensed statement regarding the recommendations of the White House Conference on Children in a Democracy and also a directory of national organizations selected because of the value of their publications or field service to American communities.

The Public Welfare Administrator

By Elwood Street. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$4.00.

HERE IS A PRACTICAL MANUAL covering the entire range of administrative responsibility in the local agency and individual institution as well as the functions of a local department of public welfare. Speaking of recreation in the field of public welfare administration Mr. Street says: "Although some public welfare systems do include recreation services such as parks, playgrounds and community centers, these activities belong rather in separate recreation departments because they serve all the people." He discusses the importance of recreation in institutions, both for inmates and staff members, and advocates the employment wherever possible of a recreation director.

Dress Accessories You Can Make.

By Elizabeth Varick. Home Institute, Inc., 109 West 19th Street, New York. \$.15.

Handcraft groups and dressmaking classes at community centers will find much of practical interest in this booklet telling how to make belts, necklaces, bags, and other "finishing touches" which add so much to the individual's appearance.

The Honolulu Plan—A Program for Effective Community Organization.

Honolulu Community Chests and Councils, Inc. \$1.00.

This is the report of a survey made by Community Chests and Councils, Inc., under the auspices of the Honolulu Council of Social Agencies and United Welfare Fund. The mixed racial and cultural backgrounds of the inhabitants, the presence of a large percentage of army and navy personnel, and the economic as well as social conditions existing make any study of Honolulu's plan for community organization a particularly interesting one.

One section of the report deals with the leisure-time and recreation program, and a picture is given of the work of the Recreation Commission and of the private agencies such as Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the Salvation Army, and Palama Settlement.

A School in the Country. The Adventures of a Small Town Superintendent.

By Chalmer Richardson. Greenberg: Publisher, New York. \$2.00.

This chronicle of the adventures of the head of a country school who chose a small town for his career shows how closely the life of an educator is interwoven with the daily pattern of the people among whom he lives and how great his influence can be. Throughout the story is evident the realization of his dreams for his town—the new school, the library, and the recreation center—all achieved through one man's ambition to make his community "a decent place in which to live and love and express oneself."

Successful Teaching in Physical Education.

By Elwood C. Davis and John D. Lawther. Prentice-Hall, Inc., New York. \$3.00.

What constitutes successful teaching in physical education? The authors have given us a clear presentation of all that is involved from the understanding of the individual child and the adjusting of the program to him to understanding and adjusting to the community.

How to Make Etchings.

By John J. Barry. Bridgman Publishers, Inc., Pelham, New York. \$1.00.

This is the third edition of this book in which the author has included all of the essentials of the etcher's art and has endeavored to make the various phases of the process easy to follow. There are illustrative diagrams and a number of reproductions of etchings.

Teaching Social Dancing.

By Augusta Harris and Donnabel Keys. Prentice-Hall, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

This book not only contains detailed information on dancing techniques, positions and teaching procedures, but discusses the important subject of ballroom technique and the courtesies associated with social dancing. In the final chapter descriptions are given of twelve early American dances.

Cues for You.

By Mildred Graves Ryan. D. Appleton-Century Co., New York. \$1.50.

A book on the social arts, this volume discusses the many conduct problems which confront adolescents. It

attempts in the words of the author "not only to point out the correct thing to do, but to build a mental attitude that will mean happiness and make for successful living." Some of the chapter headings are: Good Appearance Counts; Entertaining Problems; Behavior in Public; the Art of Conversation; and Suggestions for Poise.

Brightmoor—A Community in Action.

Brightmoor Community Center, Inc., Detroit, Michigan. \$1.00.

This report presents a picture of a struggling American community on the outskirts of Detroit and of the community center which is seeking to help the community find itself. The director of the center and his associates have taken time from their daily tasks to try to state the goals they are hoping to achieve, to evaluate accomplishments, and suggest the next steps to be taken. They studied the adult education program, their activities for youth, and their work for boys and girls, and with honesty and clear-sightedness ask themselves what they are accomplishing and what more they can do.

Recreation workers and all interested in community planning will find this a challenging booklet.

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